



GAZETTEER OF INDIA
UTTAR PRADESH

District Muzaffarnagar

UTTAR PRADESH DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



MUZAFFARNAGAR



सत्यमेव जयते

DANGLI PRASAD VARUN

I.A.S.

State Editor

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PREFACE

Earlier accounts regarding the Muzaffarnagar district are E. T. Atkinson's *Statistical, Descriptive and Historical Account of the North-Western Provinces of India*, Vol. II, (1875), various Settlement Reports of the region and H. R. Nevill's *Muzaffarnagar : A Gazetteer* (Allahabad, 1903), and its supplements.

The present Gazetteer of the district is the twenty-eighth in the series of revised District Gazetteers of the State of Uttar Pradesh which are being published under a scheme jointly sponsored and financed by the Union and the State Governments. A bibliography of the published works used in the preparation of this Gazetteer appears at its end.

The census data of 1961 and 1971 have been made the basis for the statistics mentioned in the Gazetteer.

I am grateful to the Chairman and members of the State Advisory Board, Dr P. N. Chopra, Editor, Gazetteers, Central Gazetteers Unit, Ministry of Education and Social Welfare, Government of India, New Delhi, and to all those officials and non-officials who have helped in the bringing out of this Gazetteer.

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D. P. VARUN

LUCKNOW :

November 8, 1976

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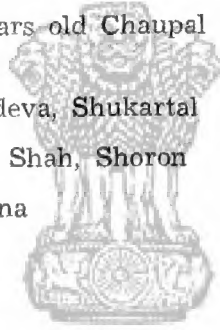
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सत्यमेव जयते

CHAPTER I

GENERAL

Origin of Name of District

The district is named after its headquarters town, Muzaffarnagar, which was founded in the reign of Shahjahan at the site of an old town known as Sarot or Sarwat. Abdul Muzaffar Khan, a minister of the emperor Shahjahan, received from him in jagir forty villages in parganas Khatauli and Sarwat, along with the title Khanjahan Shah-jahani. Sarwat was the chief town of his possessions but it was at that time almost deserted. Khanjahan started building a new town near Sarwat on lands taken from Sujru and Khera. It was, however, completed by his son Abul Mansur Khan and named Muzaffarnagar after his late father Abdul Muzaffar Khan.

Location, Boundaries, Area and Population

Location and Boundaries—The district is roughly rectangular in shape and lies between Lat. $29^{\circ} 11' N.$ and $29^{\circ} 43' N.$ and Long. $77^{\circ} 04' E.$ and $78^{\circ} 07' E.$ It forms a part of the Meerut Division and is situated in the doab of the Ganga and the Yamuna between the districts of Saharanpur on the north and Meerut on the south. On the west the Yamuna separates it from district Karnal of the Haryana State, and on the east the Ganga forms the boundary between this district and the district of Bijnor. Its extreme length from east to west is about 98 km. while the extreme breadth from north to south is about 58 km. The average length and breadth are about 84 km. and 50 km. respectively.

Area—According to the central statistical organisation and the surveyor general of India, the district covered 4,245 sq. km. in 1971 and stood 42nd in the State in respect of area. The agency of the State board of revenue, however, reported the area as 4,271.1 sq. km., which is a little higher, because of the employment of a somewhat faulty method of calculation. The district is subject to fluvial action of the Ganga and the Yamuna giving rise to frequent changes in its area.

Population—According to the census of 1971, the district has a population of 18,02,289 (females 8,17,794), the rural population being 15,52,474 (females 7,03,288) and the urban 2,49,815 (females 1,14,506), standing 19th in the State.

History of District as Administrative Unit

After the British occupation in 1803 the area comprising the present district was attached to Moradabad, but in the following year it was assigned to Saharanpur which then extended from the Siwalik hills to as far south as the northern parganas of Bulandshahr, then a part of Aligarh. Part of the tract was administered by the Resident at Delhi until 1806, when the entire area was divided into the northern and the southern charges under the

collectors stationed at Saharanpur and Meerut. In 1824, a sub-collectorship was created at Muzaffarnagar with revenue jurisdiction over the parganas of Muzaffarnagar, Baghra, Shamli, Bidauli, Jhinjhana, Charthawal, Khatauli, Jauli, Pur Chhapar, Gordhanpur, Bhukarheri, Jansath, Shoron, and Lalukheri. The sub-collectorship was converted into a regular district in 1826, when the parganas of Lakhnauti and Nurnagar were also taken away from district Saharanpur and merged in this district. In 1842, 134 villages were transferred from Saharanpur to this district, comprising 72 villages from Thana Bhawan, 16 from Chaunsatkheri, 12 from Roorkee, 10 from Deoband, five each from Gangoh, Nanauta and Manglaur, four from Nakur, three from Saharanpur, and one each from Rampur and Jaurasi. These were distributed as follows: Thana Bhawan retained 53 villages, while 20 each were assigned to Jhinjhana and Charthawal, 16 to Gordhanpur, five to Baghra, four each to Shamli, Bidauli and Muzaffarnagar, three to Pur, two to Kairana and one each to Budhana, Jansath and Khatauli. In return for this 93 villages were transferred to Saharanpur at the same time. From the old pargana of Lakhnauti 58 villages were given to Gangoh, three to Nakur, seven to Rampur and one to Katha. Of the remainder, 17 villages were taken from Nurnagar, five from Pur Chhapar and two from Baghra. In the same year parganas Shikarpur, Budhana, Kandhla, Kairana, Gangeru, Phugana, Titarwara, and Bhuma Sambalhera were separated from district Meerut and added to this district. Of these Gangeru containing two villages and Phugana having seven villages were absorbed in Kandhla, and Titwara comprising eight villages in Kairana. Shoron and Lalukheri each containing six villages, and Jauli and Sambalhera, containing 16 each were also added to the neighbouring parganas. In 1853, there were many other changes of minor importance, the alterations being chiefly internal. Twelve villages were transferred from district Meerut to Muzaffarnagar. Between the years 1841 and 1861, because of the change in the course of the Yamuna six villages were separated from this district and added to district Karnal. In 1925, Chandipur of tahsil Kairana was also transferred to district Karnal. As a result of the eastward fluvial action of the Ganga in the period between 1842 and 1900, a total of 31 villages were taken out of Bijnor and added to this district. It was only in 1954 that five villages from this district were transferred to Bijnor as a result of the river taking a westward course. The neighbouring district of Karnal in Haryana has received a number of villages from tahsil Kairana of this district. This Dhakwala was transferred to it in 1951, Rana Mazra, Jalalpur, and Kandhla in 1961, and Dilwara and Andhera in 1965.

Sub-divisions, Tahsils and Thanas

The district is divided into four subdivisions : Muzaffarnagar, Kairana, Budhana, and Jansath, each comprising a tahsil of the same name.

Tahsil Muzaffarnagar which comprises the parganas of Muzaffarnagar, Charthawal, Baghra, Pur Chhapar, and Gordhanpur, occupies the central and north-eastern portions of the district and

is bounded on the north by district Saharanpur, on the east by the river Ganga which separates it from district Bijnor, on the south by tahsils Jansath and Budhana, and on the west by tahsil Kairana. It has an area of 1,115.5 sq. km. and a population of 5,55,427 (females 2,51,093), the rural population being 4,40,644 (females 1,98,604) and the urban 1,14,783 (females 52,489), and contains 286 inhabited and 39 uninhabited villages as also the town of Muzaffarnagar.

Tahsil Kairana, which comprises the parganas of Kairana, Jhinhana, Shamli, Thana Bhawan and Bidauli, is bounded on the north by district Saharanpur, on the east by tahsil Muzaffarnagar, on the south-east and south by tahsil Budhana, and on the west by the river Yamuna which separates it from district Karnal of Haryana State. Its area is 1,141.9 sq. km. and the population 4,76,723 (females 2,17,137), the rural population being 4,07,411 (females 1,85,527) and the urban 69,312 (females 31,610). There are 244 inhabited and 30 uninhabited villages and the towns of Shamli and Kairana in this tahsil.

Tahsil Budhana, which comprises the parganas of Budhana, Shikarpur and Kandhla, occupies the south-western part of the district and is bounded on the north-west and north by tahsils Kairana and Muzaffarnagar, on the east by tahsil Jansath, on the south by district Meerut, and on the west by the Yamuna which separates it from district Karnal of Haryana State. It has an area of 741.8 sq. km. and a population of 3,63,103 (females 1,65,280), the rural population being 3,43,042 (females 1,55,985) and the urban population 20,061 (females 9,295). There are 149 inhabited and 19 uninhabited villages as well as the town of Kandhla in this tahsil.

Tahsil Jansath, which consists of parganas Khatauli, Jauli Jansath, Bhuma Sambalhera and Bhukarheri, occupies the south-eastern part of the district and is bounded on the north by tahsil Muzaffarnagar, on the east by the Ganga which separates it from district Bijnor, on the south by district Meerut, and on the west by the Kali Nadi which separates it from tahsil Budhana. Its area is 1,271.9 sq. km. and the population 4,07,036 (females 1,84,284), the rural population being 3,61,377 (females 1,63,172) and the urban 45,659 (females 21,112). It contains 248 inhabited and 72 uninhabited villages and the towns of Khatauli, Miranpur, and Jansath.

Thanas—For purposes of police administration there are 13 thanas or police-stations in the district, namely, Kotwali, Kairana, Kandhla, Titawi, Jansath, Jhinhana, Pur Qazi, Bhopa, Khatauli, Shamli, Bhawan, Budhana, and Miranpur of which three are located in tahsil Muzaffarnagar, four each in tahsils Kairana and Jansath, and two in tahsil Budhana. The numbers and areas of the thanas have no correlation with those of the tahsils.

TOPOGRAPHY

The district may generally be described as an alluvial plain which has a general slope from north to south, the highest point above sea-level in the central part being 251.55 m. near the village

of Rohana on the Meerut-Saharanpur road close to the northern border of the district. Proceeding southward along the road the elevation remains practically the same as far as the Kali Nadi, south of which it drops to 242.89 m. near the village of Rampur but rises again to 246.01 m. about 3 km. north of Muzaffarnagar. At Muzaffarnagar the elevation drops to 240.79 m. but south of the town the road again rises to 248.41 m. at Begharazpur. From this point the surface of the road gradually slopes southward, the elevation declining at every successive kilometre coming down to 234.33 m. near the southern boundary of the district. In the eastern portion there is a much greater declivity along the Ganga canal. At Belra about 15 km. further south it drops to 252.98 m. while near the southern border of the district it is not more than 236.32 m. The levels along the eastern Yamuna canal in the western part of the district are very similar to those of the Meerut-Saharanpur road. Thus, while the general slope of the district is from north to south, there is another and greater declivity from the north-east corner towards the centre, the highest point in the district being on the high bank of the Ganga. The chief rivers of the district, the Ganga, the Kali, the Hindan, and the Yamuna have played an important role in fashioning the topography of the district and divide it in four fairly distinct tracts. On the extreme east is the Ganga *khadar*, containing the whole of the pargana of Gordhanpur, and portions of parganas Pur Chhapar, Bhukarheri, and Bhuma Sambalhera. Next comes the eastern upland, the tract between the old high bank of the Ganga and the Kali Nadi (West), through which runs the Ganga canal. Further west is the doab of the Kali Nadi (West) and Hindan rivers. And, lastly, there lies the western tract comprising that portion of the district which extends from the Hindan to the Yamuna.

Ganga Khadar—This tract is bounded on the west by the old high bank of the Ganga, a line of cliffs broken by ravines, which at places attains a height of more than 30 m. above the lowland and slopes down from the level of the uplands towards the Ganga itself. The width of the Ganga *khadar* is greatest towards the north, where it covers 20 km. Moving southwards the tract gradually narrows until in the vicinity of Bhukarheri the Ganga comes quite close to the high bank. Further south the tract again widens and in pargana Bhuma Sambalhera attains a width varying from six to ten kilometres. The chief rivers flowing through the tract are the Saloni and the Banganga which generally change their courses. On the whole the *khadar* presents a broad far-stretching tract of level country with patches of cultivation, but elsewhere bearing nothing more than coarse grass with occasional clumps of tamarisk. In the cold season it is clothed in brown, trees are scarce, and the grass, too, loses its luxuriance. Here and there rivulets occur and beyond all is the silver streak of the Ganga itself.

The Eastern Upland—This tract lies between the high bank of the Ganga and the Kali Nadi (West), and is generally known as the Ganga canal tract as it is traversed from north to south-west for its entire extent by the main Ganga canal. It comprises the

parganas of Khatauli, Jauli Jansath, and major portions of parganas Pur Chhapar, Muzaffarnagar, Bhukarheri, and Bhuma Sambalhera. All along the high cliff there is a series of ravines worn by the surface drainage and are of little value even for pasture. Beyond these ravines the upland has a general slope from east to west and close to the high bank from west to east, with a considerably greater slope from north to south as is evident by a couple of falls in the Ganga canal to moderate the otherwise excessive gradient of canal channel. To the south-east, between the canal and the lowlands, the headwaters of the Kali Nadi (East) or Nagan collect together but assume a definite shape as a river in district Meerut. To the west of the canal the descent of the tract to the Kali Nadi (West) in the northern parganas is generally more gradual, but in the south in pargana Khatauli a belt of broken lands separates in most villages the generally level uplands from the valley of the Kali Nadi (West). The tract had suffered considerably by percolation from the canal, especially in the south-western part where much land had been put out of cultivation. But now owing to the construction of drainage works it has improved greatly and been brought under the plough.

The most prominent physical feature of the tract is the presence of sand, which occurs in belts of hillocks with a direction from north to south, and occasionally transverse ridges in the north and a level sandy plain in the south. It commences from the east of the sandy ridge in pargana Muzaffarnagar and extends south-eastwards through parganas Jauli Jansath and Bhuma Sambalhera into district Meerut. The chief ridge starts from the ravines of pargana Pur Chhapar and then, bending in a south-westerly direction to within 6 km. of the Kali Nadi, turns southward. From this point it skirts the eastern and southern borders of pargana Muzaffarnagar and joins the ravines above the Kali Nadi in the extreme south of the pargana. Offshoots of this main ridge extend in various directions through parganas Khatauli and Jauli Jansath and there are other isolated sandhills in pargana Pur Chhapar. The Anupshahr branch canal, which leaves the main canal near Jauli and traverses through parganas Jauli Jansath and Bhuma Sambalhera, passes through the broad sandy belt along almost the whole of its course. Outside the sandy belt the soil is generally good loam except in the neighbourhood of the Kali Nadi.

Kali-Hindan Doab—This tract, also known as the Central tract, is high throughout and is naturally of a fertile character. Here the water-table is very low. The Deoband branch of the Ganga canal enters the tract in pargana Charthawal and terminates in a ravine of the Hindan river near Budhana. The eastern and western extremities of the tract, which slope down to the rivers on either side, are marked by broken ground, and the tendency of ravine formation is noticeable to an increasing degree in the southern portions of the area. Between the ravines and the river beds there is a narrow belt of lowland. The lowland of the Kali river is often unculturable owing to its swampy character. The northern portion of the lowland of the Hindan is also swampy, but the southern portion contains considerable tract of cultivated land, the soil being much less sandy than that in the Ganga canal

tract. However, one well-marked belt of sand runs through its middle, beginning at Charthawal in the north near the Hindan, and passing through Baghra and the east of Shikarpur towards the Kali Nadi.

The Western Tract—This tract, which lies between the Hindan and the Yamuna, comprises the entire tahsil of Kairana, parts of parganas Charthawal, Baghra, Shikarpur, Budhana, and the pargana of Kandhla. It is traversed by the Krisani and the Katha flowing from north to south somewhat parallel to the Yamuna and the Hindan. The land between the Hindan and the Krisani is of a generally uniform character owing to the absence of sand. The soil near the rivers is very poor as usual and liability to floods renders cultivation precarious. The broken ground between the Hindan valley and the upland is of an extremely poor character and is unsuitable for cultivation. Along the Krisani this uneven land is negligible. The stream flows in a well-defined channel and the *khadar* is small. The fields, however, in its vicinity are liable to be swept by heavy floods, the severity of which is increased by the discharge into the Krisani of several drainage cuts, which bring down more water than the capacity of the river.

The tract between the Hindan and the Krisani consists of a somewhat elevated upland, sufficiently low, however, to admit of irrigation from a branch of the Yamuna canal. Beyond the Krisani the land is traversed by the main channel of the Eastern Yamuna canal. In the low ground along the canal the soil has suffered considerably from saturation and is affected by *reh*. The soil in the northern portion is inferior to that in the southern portion.

The north-western portion of the tract, comprising the pargana of Bidauli and parts of parganas Jhijnhana and Kairana, is separated by the Katha river from the rest of the district. It has suffered to a great extent owing to the heavy floods in the Katha and a constant tendency of the Yamuna to change its course towards the east. In the neighbourhood of the Yamuna and the Katha rivers the lands are greatly affected by *reh*. The country is cut up by numerous watercourses, of special note being a large lake, which does not dry up till late in the year. The whole of the central portion is also more or less insecure owing to the inundations from the Yamuna and the two streams known as the Khokri and the Sendhli. The former flows from north to south through the centre of pargana Bidauli, while the latter appears to be a backwater of the Yamuna. These streams are merely irregular water channels which have no fixed course. In years of heavy rainfall they overflow their banks and throw extensive tracts out of cultivation. The land to the west of the Katha is also a low-lying swampy tract of inferior soil, constantly open to floods. It has suffered considerably from *reh*. The land in the upper course of the Katha, though considerably covered with dhak forests, is better than that in the lower course, which is marked by several swamps and water courses. The south-western portion of the tract is a dlevel plain of good soil, except in the vicinity of the Yamuna.

RIVER SYSTEMS AND WATER RESOURCES

The rivers and streams of the district are included in the river systems of the Ganga and the Yamuna. The chief tributaries of the Ganga are the Kali Nadi (East) the Saloni and the Banganga. Among the tributaries of the Yamuna the important ones are the Katha and the Hindan. The latter is joined by the Kri-sani in district Meerut and the Kali Nadi (West) in this district.

Ganga—Rising in district Uttarkashi, the Ganga first touches this district near the village of Balawala in pargana Gordhanpur, and flows south-westward as far as the village of Chandpuri where it is joined by the Banganga. It then takes a south-easterly course and, running along the eastern boundaries of parganas Bhukarheri and Bhuma Sambalhera, leaves this district near the village of Khera in the latter pargana. All along its course the Ganga forms the eastern boundary of this district which it separates from the district of Bijnor. While in this district the channel of the river varies from time to time, the general tendency is to shift eastward. A great change in the course of the river is said to have taken place about 1400 A.D. The account of the change is strengthened by the fact that Tughlaqpur, a village on the high bank above the Saloni in pargana Pur Chhappar now about 20 km. west of the Ganga, is mentioned by Timur in his memoirs as a village on the bank of the Ganga where he encamped during his expedition to the doab in the year 1398. According to tradition a further change dates from the reign of Shahjahan. This is supported by the statement that Nurjahan had a country seat at the village of Nurnagar in the north-east of pargana Pur Chhappar. Whereas dismal marshes now extend east of Nurnagar, the empress, it is obvious, must have selected a retreat, then picturesque enough, with the river flowing at the foot of the ravines on which Nurnagar now stands. A number of abandoned channels and the presence of backwaters in the *khadar* tract to the west of the river speak of the changes effected in the recent past. The Banganga in pargana Gordhanpur and the Burhganga (*burh* meaning old) in pargana Bhukarheri represent the old channels of the Ganga. The marshes running parallel to the Ganga from a point about 8 km. south of the mouth of the Saloni also probably represent an old bed of the river, while the land between the Ganga and the swamp is occupied by a maze of watercourses.

Kali Nadi (East)—This river is called Nagin probably because of its serpentine course, and Kali Nadi (East) to distinguish it from the Kali Nadi (West), the tributary of the Hindan. It has its origin in the Antwara lake on the western border of pargana Jauli Jansath between the Ganga canal and the main sandy ridge. It flows through parganas Jauli Jansath and Khatauli and then leaves the district to enter district Meerut. The river at first flows in an ill-defined channel, but ultimately becomes the main arterial line of drainage for the whole of the eastern doab as far south as Kannauj in district Farrukhabad where it joins the Ganga. The bed of the stream has been straightened and deepened, a measure that has resulted in the disappearance to a large extent

of the swamps that used to form in the upper part of its course till the beginning of the present century.

Saloni—This stream which formerly joined the Ganga in district Saharanpur, changed its course about 1852 and flowed into the old bed of the Ganga, linking the line of lakes therein. This was the same bed which had been left by the Ganga when it had changed its course during the reign of Shahjahan and wherefrom it had continually shifted eastward. The Saloni enters the district in the extreme north of pargana Pur Chhapar and flows south-eastward traversing parganas Pur Chhapar, Gordhanpur, and Bhukarheri, meeting the Ganga about 4 km. north-east of the Bhukarheri. The river flows in an uncertain course keeping, almost as a rule, closer to the old high bank of the Ganga than to the Ganga itself.

Banganga—This stream is in reality a backwater of the Ganga and represents an old channel of that river. It leaves the main stream about 6 km. below Kankhal in district Saharanpur and enters this district near the village of Kanewali in pargana Gordhanpur. Flowing through the pargana in a southerly direction it joins the Ganga near Chandpuri. Formerly this river entered this district near Gordhanpur about 6 km. west of Kanewali. It has a well-defined bed and causes little damage to the land near its banks.

Yamuna—Rising in district Uttarkashi, the Yamuna first touches the district in the extreme north-west of pargana Bidauli about four km. north-west of Bhari Mustafaabad and runs southward in an irregular course along the western boundaries of parganas Bidauli, Kairana, and Kandhla, separating this district from district Karnal of Haryana State. There has been no change of any importance in the course of the river. In the extreme north of the district, as also on the south, it washes a high mound on which stand the ruins of a Maratha fort ascribed to Sadashiva Bhao. It may safely be conjectured that the channel has not changed much at this point since the days of the last battle of Panipat. Between these two extreme points, however, the bed of the stream is tortuous and uncertain. At several points the river cuts towards the east, but only to be thrown off further to the west lower down. At three places in its course the channel takes a sharp bend to the west, where it has, when in flood, a tendency to flow straight on. The most northerly of these points is at Bhari Mustafaabad, a village on the bank of the Sendhli which enters the district from Saharanpur. There was a considerable distance between the Yamuna and the Sendhli at this point till the last quarter of the 19th century when the former cut through the intervening land and carried off even a portion of the village site. During rainy season the Yamuna flows by this village and its waters overflow all the lowly lands of pargana Bidauli, right across to join the floods of the Katha. The next point at which the Yamuna turns westwards lies near Bidauli. It turns eastwards again near Nawada about 16 km. further south. At the beginning of the present century a sharp bend existed near Rani Mazra, a village about 10 km. south of Bidauli, but the river

has abandoned its old channel now and flows straight on towards Nawada, where it takes a sharp bend towards the east. Near Nawada it is joined by the Katha and then takes a sharp turn towards the west. From this point onwards the river flows generally in a southerly direction leaving this district near the village of Isapur in pargana Kandhla.

Katha—This stream, which rises in district Saharanpur, enters this district near Mundait in pargana Jhinhana. Running south-westward through pargana Jhinhana in an irregular course, it passes about a kilometre west of Jhinhana entering pargana Kairana from the south-west corner. Running in the same direction through the western half of pargana Kairana, it joins the Yamuna almost opposite the town of Kairana. The villages lying along the Katha on both sides suffer to a great extent from the floods of this river which receives the contents of several drainage cuts, both here and in district Saharanpur.

Hindan—Rising in the Siwalik hills to the north of pargana Muzaffarabad in district Saharanpur, the Hindan enters this district at the village of Badha Khera in pargana Charthawal. Flowing southward the river traverses the parganas of Charthawal, Baghra, Shikarpur, and Budhana. It enters district Meerut at the extreme south of the last-mentioned pargana. The river is used for neither irrigation nor navigation. The banks are high and steep in the north, but towards the south they are sloping and the lowlands are broader. At the point where the Hindan reaches the southern boundary of the district it is joined by the Kali river. To the west of the stream the *khadar* is small and inferior, fringed by a strip of broken land, while on the east it is much more extensive, the high bank being sometimes even more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ km. from the stream.

Krisani—This river enters the district from the district of Saharanpur, near the village of Chandaina in the extreme north of pargana Thana Bhawan, about 5 km. north of Jalalabad, and runs southward past Jalalabad and Thana Bhawan, entering Shamli at the village of Kairi. Here the river swerves to the south-west, but turns south again at Banat. It then continues the southerly course past the villages of Kudana and Lisarh, and enters district Meerut at the south-western corner of village Baral. It traverses the parganas of Thana Bhawan, Shamli, and Kandhla. The river generally flows below high banks of broken and uneven ravines and has practically no *khadar* (lowland).

Kali Nadi (West)—Rising in district Saharanpur, the Kali, which is also known as the Kali Nadi (West) to distinguish it from the Kali Nadi (East) or Nagin, enters the district near the village of Rohana in pargana Muzaffarnagar. Running in a south-westerly course it forms for a short distance the boundary of this pargana with that of pargana Charthawal, and then turns south, leaving the pargana near the south-western corner. It thereafter separates parganas Shikarpur and Khatauli upto the village Anchauli and, then running south-westwards in pargana Budhana, forms the southern boundary of the district with district Meerut, finally

leaving it near the village of Kurthal. At one time the neighbouring area of the Kali suffered from severe saturation owing to the use of the river as a canal escape, but the subsequent drainage schemes which were later on undertaken led to a large disappearance of *reh* which had earlier threatened to render large areas permanently unfit for cultivation.

Lakes—In the Ganga *khadar* tract there are large swamps representing the old bed of the Ganga. Till 1852, the whole line of the Saloni was almost a chain of lakes and marshes. Most of them have been silted up because of floods in river Saloni, but the Jogawali lake close to the point of junction still remains unchanged. In pargana Bhuma Sambalhera a large swamp running parallel to the Ganga extends upto the Meerut district. Besides the marshy land of the Ganga *khadar* there are a few lakes worth mentioning in this district. The most important is the Mamaur lake in tahsil Kairana.

GEOLOGY

Geologically, this district forms a part of the Indo-gangetic alluvium which consists of sands of various grades. The exact thickness of the alluvium is not known, but it is supposed to be considerable. The minerals found in the district are *kankar* and *reh*.

Kankar—It exists in a very limited quantity. There are only two quarries in tahsil Kairana, one being in Jansath and the other in the valley of the Saloni in tahsil Muzaffarnagar. The distance of main roads from these quarries is so great that the *kankar* for metalling them is brought from the neighbouring areas of the districts of Meerut and Saharanpur.

Reh—This mineral is an impure carbonate of soda and alkaline in nature and pernicious to agriculture. In the last quarter of the 19th century it occurred in considerable quantities along the Yamuna in pargana Bidauli. This was much more marked along the course of the Eastern Yamuna canal and at a place along the Kali Nadi (West) and the Ganga canal. The *reh* infected area was 10,584 hectares in 1885-86. On completion of the drainage works at the end of the 19th century this area was reduced to 3,348 hectares by 1901-02, though at some places the improvement was more due to natural reaction than to the artificial drainage. By 1970-71 the *reh* covered area further diminished to 1,348 hectares, with 907 hectares in tahsil Kairana, 230 hectares in tahsil Muzaffarnagar, 173 hectares in tahsil Budhana, and only 38 hectares in tahsil Jansath. At present this mineral is found in a small quantity along the Yamuna and to the west of Kali Nadi (West).

Seismically the district falls in a zone of moderate intensity and no epicentre of any significant earthquake has been located here. The great Himalayan boundary fault zone and the fault zone near Delhi lie respectively to the north and south of the district. A number of moderate to severe earthquakes originat-

ing on these features have been felt from slight to moderate intensity at Muzaffarnagar.

In the earthquake-zoning map of India prepared under the auspices of the Indian Standard Institution, district Muzaffarnagar falls in Zone IV, wherein the seismic intensity may reach VIII on the Modified Mercalli Scale—1931 between I meaning not felt and XII—meaning total damage.

CLIMATE

The climate of the district is characterised by general dryness except during the brief span of monsoon season. It has a hot summer and a pleasant cold winter. The year is divided into the usual four seasons. The period from the middle of November to about the end of February is the cold season. The hot season which follows continues up to about the end of June. The monsoon season commences from July and lasts till about the middle of September, when the post-monsoon season ensues.

Rainfall—Records of rainfall in the district have been maintained at Muzaffarnagar, Kairana, Budhana, Jansath, Bhainswal, and Kandhla for over 85 years. The details of the rainfall at these places and for the district is given in Statement I at the end of the chapter. The normal rainfall in the district is 758.6 mm. The general rainfall in the district increases as one proceeds from the west towards the east. It varies from 659.8 at Kandhla in the west to 894.7 mm. at Jansath in the east. About 84 per cent of the annual rainfall in the district is recorded between June and September, July and August being the rainiest. The variation in the rainfall from year to year is rather large. During the fifty-year period, (1901 to 1950), the highest annual rainfall amounting to 202 per cent of the normal occurred in 1942, whereas the rainfall was the lowest in 1918 with only 32 per cent of the normal. During the same period the annual rainfall in the district was less than 80 per cent of the normal in 11 years, the consecutive years of such low rainfall being two and four. Considering the rainfall at individual stations, two, three, and four consecutive years of such low rainfall occurred at least once at most of the stations. Bhainswal recorded two consecutive years of such low rainfall twice, and Kandhla recorded three consecutive years twice. The statement regarding the frequency of the annual rainfall in the district is given below for the period 1901 to 1950 :

Range in mm.	Number of years	Range in mm.	Number of years
201-300	1	901-1000	8
301-400	3	1001-1100	3
401-500	3	1101-1200	1
501-600	4	1201-1300	—
601-700	7	1301-1400	—
701-800	11	1401-1500	—
801-900	8	1501-1600	1

On an average there are 35 rainy days (i.e. days with rainfall of 2.5 mm. or more) in a year, the number varying from 29 at Bhainswal to 40 at Muzaffarnagar and Jansath.

The heaviest rainfall in 24 hours at any station was 480.1 mm. at Muzaffarnagar on 3rd July, 1956.

Temperature—There is no meteorological observatory in the district and, therefore, the following data is based on the records of observatories in those districts where similar climatic conditions prevail. After February there is a continuous rise in temperatures till May, or early June, which forms the hottest part of the year. The mean daily maximum temperature in May is about 24°C. The summer is intensely hot with the maximum temperature on particular days at times going up to over 44°C. Hot dust-laden winds which often blow during the summer add to the pungency of the weather. Thundershowers, which occasionally occur during summer, bring welcome relief, though only temporarily. With the onset of the south-west monsoon, by about the end of June, the day temperature drops appreciably but the nights throughout the monsoon season are as warm as during the summer. Because of the increased humidity in the monsoon season the atmosphere is often oppressive in between the rains. After the withdrawal of the south-west monsoon by mid-September there is a slight increase in the day temperatures, but the nights become gradually cooler. After October both the day and night temperatures fall rapidly. The coldest month is usually January with the mean daily maximum temperature of about 20°C. and the mean daily minimum of about 7°C. With the cold waves in the wake of passing western disturbances, the minimum temperatures tend to go down upto the freezing point of water with a possibility of frosts.

Humidity—The air is very humid in the monsoon season. During the rest of the year the humidity is very low. April and May are usually the driest months, the relative humidities in the afternoons being less than 25 per cent.

Cloudiness—During the monsoon season the skies are generally heavily clouded, otherwise they are clear or chequered with thin clouds. However, during winters, because of the passing western disturbances, the clouds are dark and thick.

Winds—Winds are generally light and only a little strong in the summer and monsoon seasons. During October and April they are mostly westerly or north-westerly. From May they become easterly and during the south-west monsoon season they are predominantly easterly or south-easterly.

Special Weather Phenomena—Dust-storms and thunder-storms in summer are often accompanied with violent squalls. With the western disturbances a few thunder-storms occur also in the cold season when sometimes the mornings are foggy.

FLORA

The district of Muzaffarnagar forms part of the northern subtropical deciduous type of vegetation division, but as it is devoid

of extensive natural vegetative cover it is not possible to attach botanical labels to its forest.

There are 962 hectares of reserved and 1,000 hectares of protected forest with 3,420 hectares of waste land under the control of the forest department in the district. The following statement gives the tahsilwise break-up :

Tahsil	Reserved forest (in hectares)	Waste land (in hectares)	Protected forest or canal forest (in hectares)	Total
Kairana	280	—	—	280
Muzaffarnagar	—	130	1,000	1,130
Jansath	682	3,290	—	3,972
Budhana	—	—	—	—
Total	962	3,420	1,000	4,382

The forest areas under the management of village panchayats measure 243 hectares in tahsil Jansath, 110 hectares in tahsil Kairana, 45 hectares in tahsil Budhana, and 6 hectares in tahsil Muzaffarnagar.

Patches of dhak forests are found in the north-western part of the district, especially in parganas Bidauli and Jhinjhana. The dhak provides a gum used in the manufacture of indigo which is rarely extracted now. Its flowers produce a red dye and its wood is used as fuel and for manufacturing charcoal. Its wood is also used for lining the wells. There is a mixed jungle known as the Kailapur reserved forest in tahsil Jansath, sissoo being the dominant tree. Its wood is mainly used for furniture and for items such as door beams, door frames, window sills, etc.

The trees generally found in the district are *amaltas* (*Cassia fistula*), *arjun* (*Terminalia arjuna*), *ashok* (*Pelyalthe longifolia*), *am* (*Mangifera indica*), *amrood* (*Psidium guajava*), *aonla* (*Emblica officinalis*), *babool* (*Acacia arabica*), *bargad* (*Ficus bengalensis*), *bel* (*Aegle marmelos*), *bur* (*Zizyphus mauratiana*), *Cheonkar* (*Prosopis spicigera*), *dhak* (*Butea monosperma*), *gular* (*Ficus glomerata*), *gol mohar* (*Donax regia*), *eucalyptus hybrid* (Various *eucalyptus* species), *imli* (*Tamarindus indica*), *jamun* (*Syzygium cumini*), *kanji* (*Pongamia pinnata*), *khair* (*Acacia catechu*), *khajoor* (*Phoenix sylvestris*), *neem* (*Azadirachta indica*), *naspati* (*Pyrus species*), *bara nimb* (*Citrus medica*), *pakar* (*Ficus lacor*), *papita* (*Carica papaya*), *pipal* (*Ficus religiosa*), *siris* (*Albizzia lebbeck*), *sissoo* (*Dalbergia sissoo*), *vilayati babool* (*Prosopis juliflora*), and *reonj* (*Acacia leucophloea*).

Among the shrubs which generally grow in the *khadar* tracts are *arusa* (*Adhatoda vasica*), *ber* (*Zizyphus mauratiana*), *bharg* (*Cannabis sativa*), *jhar beri* (*Zizyphus fruticosa*), *kareel* (*Capparis decidua*), *karonda* (*Carissa spinarum*), *makoh* (*Zizyphus oenoplia*), and *sitahani* (*Artmesia scoparia*). The climbers found here are *dudhi-bel* (*Vallaris solanoea*), *hins* (*Capparis Zeylanica*), and

makoh (*Zizyphus oenoplia*). The grasses growing in the district, chiefly in *khadar* tracts, are *dab* (*Desmostachya bipinnata*), *dub* (*Cynodon dactylon*), *kans* (*Saccharum spontaneum*), *moonj* (*Eriarthus munja*), and *patera* (*Typha elephantiana*).

The development schemes for the reserved and protected forests of the district are included in different working plans prepared by the forest department. During 1966 and 1971 afforestation of 695 hectares of waste land with *sissoo*, *eucalyptus*, *khair*, *babool*, *jamun*, *mango*, and *arjun* plants was carried out. The planted areas are fenced with barbed wire and are closed for at least five years. Thereafter when the plants have grown high beyond damage by cattle, the area is thrown open for grazing, but lopping and grazing of goats continue to be prohibited. Road sides measuring about 48 km. and 18 km. were also planted with *sissoo*, *jamun*, *mango*, and *babul* respectively in 1967 and 1971.

Groves—At the time of Thornton's Settlement of 1841, the grove area of the district was about 100 hectares. At Miller's Settlement in 1887-1892 it increased to 4,272 hectares. In 1970-71 the district had about 4,387 hectares of groveland, of which tahsil Muzaffarnagar had 1,456 hectares, tahsil Kairana 1,139 hectares, tahsil Budhana 898 hectares, and tahsil Jansath 894 hectares. The groves chiefly have *mango*, *plum*, and *citrus* trees. The scattered trees found all over the district are usually *sissoo*, *sisir*, *jamun*, *babul*, and various kinds of *fig*, such as *gular*, *pipal*, *bargad*, and *pakar*.

FAUNA

The *tiger* (*Panthera tigris*) and the *leopard* which were met with in the district till the beginning of the present century have practically disappeared. The *nilgai* (*Boselaphus tragocamelus*) is found in the *khadar* area. As it receives protection from the orthodox Hindus because of its so-called name *gai* (meaning cow), its number has increased considerably. The *wild pig* (*Sus porcinus*), also found in the *khadar* of the Ganga, damages the crops. The *Hyaena* (*Hyaena hyaena*) and the *jackal* (*Canis aureus*) are found in small numbers. The *Indian black buck* (*Antelope cervicapra*), the *hogdeer*, and the *spotted deer*, which inhabit the ravined tract, are found in small herds. Their number has considerably decreased because of constant hunting in the past.

Birds—The birds of the district call for little mention, as mostly the same species occur as are found in other plain districts of Uttar Pradesh. Among the game birds, *ducks*, *geese*, *quails*, and *teals* are found in the *Ganga khadar*. *Partridges*, both *grey* and *black*, are found throughout the district. Some of the other birds commonly found in the district are the *parrot* (*Psittacul eupatria*), the *cuckoo* (*Eudynamys scolopacea*), the *kite* (*Milvus migrans*), the *crow* (*Corvus splendens*), the *owl* (*Glaucidium cuculoides*), the *peacock* (*Pavo cristatus*), the *black or king vulture* (*Torgos calvus*), and the *nilkanth* (*Coracias benghalensis*).

Reptiles—The majority of the snake species found in the district is ~~non~~-poisonous except the *cobra* (*Naja naja* or *Naja tri-*

pudians), the common krait (*Bungarus caeruleus*), and the Russell's viper (*Vipera russelli*). The crocodile, the muggar, and the turtle are found in the Ganga and the Yamuna. The chameleon and house lizard are common everywhere. Among amphibians, frogs (*Rana tigrina* and *Bufo melenostictus*) are in abundance.

Fish—About 30 species of fish are found in the district. In the fisheries, *catla* (*Catla catla*), *rohu* (*Labeo rohita*), *kursa* (*Labeo gonius*), *bata* (*Labeo bata*), *pungussia* (*Labeo pungussia*), *karaunch* (*Labeo calbasu*), *nain* (*Cirrhina mrigala*), and *raiya* (*Cirrhina reba*) are cultured. There are about fourteen species of cat fish, which eat the above species and hence are not cultured. Some of the important species of cat fish are *parhin* (*Wallago attu*), *pabda* (*Ompak pabda*), *singhara* (*Mystus aor*, *Mystus vitatus*), *katera* (*Mystus vitatus*), *tengra* (*Mystus cavessius*), and *singhi* (*Hertopneustes fossilis*). About eleven species of minnows or weed fish are also found in the district, the chief being the *kharda* (*Colisa fasciatus*), the *chilwa* (*Chela bacaila*), and the *maluwa* (*Amblypharyngodon mola*).

Game Laws

Till the beginning of the present century, wild life of the district was greatly imperilled because of the indiscriminate tactics used by hunters and poachers. The process of their depletion was so rapid that certain species came to the verge of total extinction. To protect wild life from further ravages, a number of Acts such as the Wild Birds and Animals Protection Act 1912, the Indian Forests Act 1927, the Wild Birds and Animal Protection U. P. Amendment Act (Act XIII of 1934), U. P. Private Forests Act 1948, and the Indian Forests Act 1951 were enforced in this district, as elsewhere in the State. The game laws are presently governed by the Wild Life Protection Act, 1972, which imposes a total ban on the shooting of species such as the tiger, the leopard, etc., which are fast extinguishing. Rules and regulations pertaining to hunting and shooting are periodically published and are compiled in forest manuals.

STATE

Normals and Extremes

Station	No. of years of data	Normals							
		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Muzaffar-nagar	50 a	30.7	31.7	16.3	6.6	14.0	83.8	243.8	220.0
	b	2.3	2.4	1.3	0.7	1.3	4.1	10.7	9.9
Kairana	50 a	23.9	25.7	15.2	12.2	11.4	66.5	205.5	203.5
	b	1.9	2.4	1.4	0.9	1.1	3.5	9.1	8.4
Budhana	50 a	22.9	23.6	11.9	8.4	10.7	64.5	190.3	176.5
	b	2.0	2.0	1.1	0.7	1.2	3.4	8.8	8.1
Jauli	50 a	34.8	32.8	15.0	10.9	14.5	92.2	242.8	241.1
Jansath		b	2.2	2.2	1.3	1.0	1.3	3.8	10.4
Bhainswal	50 a	22.6	23.4	11.4	9.9	7.6	53.1	231.4	195.1
	b	1.7	1.6	0.9	0.5	0.7	2.6	8.1	7.4
Kandhla	50 a	21.3	20.6	11.4	9.1	8.1	57.7	182.9	173.6
	b	1.8	2.0	0.9	0.7	0.8	2.6	8.3	7.5
Muzaffar-nagar (District)	a	26.0	26.3	13.5	9.5	11.1	69.6	216.1	201.5
	b	2.0	2.1	1.1	0.7	1.1	3.3	9.2	8.5

(a) Normal rainfall in mm.

(b) Average number of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm. or more)

* Based on all available data upto 1964

** Years shown in brackets

MENT I

of Rainfall

Reference Page No. 11

Extremes									
September	October	November	December	Annual	Highest annual rain-fall as % of normal and year**	Lowest annual rain-fall as % of normal and year**	Heaviest rain- fall in 24 hours*		
							Amount (mm.)	Date	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
153.9	21.6	3.1	12.5	838.0	171 (1932)	39 (1918)	480.1	July 3, 1956	
5.1	1.0	0.3	1.2	40.3					
148.8	17.8	2.8	11.9	745.2	183 (1948)	29 (1918)	287.0	July 22, 1867	
4.8	0.7	0.1	1.0	35.3					
130.9	19.6	2.5	10.2	671.9	191 (1916)	34 (1918)	244.9	July 16, 1900	
4.8	0.8	0.3	1.0	34.2					
170.2	26.2	2.8	11.4	894.7	192 (1936)	41 (1918)	406.4	September 17, 1880	
5.3	0.9	0.4	1.2	39.7					
160.3	18.3	2.0	7.9	743.0	417 (1942)	19 (1918)	325.1	July 31, 1942	
3.9	0.5	0.1	0.8	28.8					
149.0	15.0	2.0	9.1	659.8	205 (1942)	29 (1918)	279.4	September 19, 1933	
4.1	0.5	0.1	0.8	30.7					
152.9	9.7	2.5	10.5	753.6	202 (1942)	32 (1918)			
4.8	0.7	0.2	1.0	34.7					

CHAPTER II

HISTORY

ANCIENT PERIOD

The area covered by the present district of Muzaffarnagar lies in the upper doab of the Ganga and the Yamuna, which have existed since the date of the *Rigveda*¹. The region was called Madhyadesa, of which this district formed a part. It came into prominence when the Aryans settled here and culture and civilization² developed. According to the traditional history as gleaned from the Puranas and the epics, the earliest known king who ruled over this part was Pururavas Aila, progenitor of the lunar dynasty³. His realm was divided between his two sons, Ayu and Amavasu. The former continued at Pratisthana and the latter founded the Kanyakubja dynasty in the mid-Gangetic doab. His great-grandson, Yayati, continued to rule over the entire Madhyadesa region west of Ayodhya⁴. The Yayati period lasted from c. 3000—2750 B.C. No king of prominence arose in this line after Yayati's son, Puru, whose descendants were called Pauravas, and the kingdom gradually dwindled away⁵, falling into the hands of Mandhata, king of Kosala⁶. The ancestral realm was, however, regained by Dushyanta, who revived the glory of Puru⁷. The district continued to be ruled by his son Bharata who extended his territory from the Saraswati to the Ganga. The Pauravas later on came to be called Bharatas and the country Bharatvarsha. The headquarters of the kingdom was shifted from Pratisthana to Hastinapur⁸. Kuru was the next renowned king of this dynasty⁹ and the district which came under his dominion was called Kuru-desa. His successors became known as Kurus or Kaurvas¹⁰. Though the sons of both Dhritrashtra and Pandu were Kauravas, the term was restricted to only the sons of Dhritrashtra, Pandu's sons being called Pandavas¹¹. The throne of Hastinapur, which governed this district, was the chief bone of contention between the Kauravas and

1. Tripathi, R. S. : *History of Ancient India*, pp. 28-29

2. *Ibid.*, p. 41; Majumdar, R. C. : *Ancient India*, pp. 65-66

3. Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalker, A. D. (Ed.) : *The History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. I, p. 277

4. *Ibid.*

5. *Ibid.*, pp. 278-282

6. *Ibid.*, p. 281

7. *Ibid.*, p. 296

8. *Ibid.*, Raychaudhri, H. C. : *Political History of Ancient India*, p. 24

9. Majumdar, R. C., *op. cit.*, p. 71

10. Pargiter, F. E. : *Ancient Indian Historical Tradition*, pp. 76, 281

11. *Ibid.*, p. 300

the Pandavas, resulting in the battle of Mahabharata which dates back to about 1400 B.C.¹ The strife ended in the defeat of the Kauravas, leaving the Pandavas under Yudhishtir supreme in northern India², with his capital at Hastinapur³. The district continued to be a part of the Kuru empire under Parikshita, grandson of Arjuna, the third of the five Pandava brothers. His kingdom comprised the present New Delhi, part of the east Punjab, and the upper Ganga-Yamuna doab⁴. The sage Shukadeva is said to have recited the *Srimad Bhagavata* to Parikshita at Shukartal in Jansath tahsil of this district. Parikshita lost his life while fighting the Nagas. His son Janamejaya, also a powerful monarch, performed a major sacrifice, famous as *Janamejaya Yajna*, to which he invited certain Brahmanas to officiate as priests and rewarded them with lands⁵. The Brahmanas patronised by Janamejaya are said to be the Tagas of Pur, Charthawal, and Shikarpur⁶. The successors of Janamejaya continued to hold sway over the region till the reign of Nichaksu, the fourth in line from him⁷, when the main branch of the Kurus shifted their capital to Kaushambi, Hastinapur having been destroyed⁸. The junior branch called the Abhipratarnas⁹ (descendants of Abhipratarn) continued to hold the region covering this district from their new capital, Indraprastha, present old Delhi. The Kurus gradually gave up the monarchical form of government and consolidated themselves into a republican confederation¹⁰. The district became a part of Kuru Janpada, being one of the twelve great republican states—Vriji, Malla, Chedi, Vatsa, Kuru, Panchala, Matsa, Surasena, Asmaka, Avanti, Kamboja, and Gandhara; as well as of the four monarchical states of Kasi, Kosala, Magadha, and Anga, which flourished in the sixth century¹¹. In the middle of the fourth century B. C. the Kurus were overthrown by Mahapadma of the Nanda dynasty of Magadha. Pauranic tradition affirms that he exterminated all the Kshatriya families and became the monarch of a vast kingdom extending from Punjab to Magadha, including this district¹². About 321 B. C., the administration of the district passed to Chandragupta Maurya¹³ who defeated the Nanda king and occupied the throne of Magadha. His grandson Asoka, who in the latter part of his rule adopted a policy of conquest by piety in place of conquest by weapon¹⁴, had extended his kingdom from the present Peshawar to Bengal, and

1. *The Mahabharat*, Bhishma Parva, ch. 25, p. 322; Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, p. 72

2. Majumdar, *op. cit.*, p. 72

3. *The Mahabharata*, Sabha Parva, ch. 108, p. 372

4. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, p. 323; Raychaudhari, *op. cit.*, p. 22

5. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, pp. 324-25

6. Crooks, W. : *Tribes and Castes of the North-Western Provinces of India*, Vol. IV, pp. 352-53

7. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, p. 325

8. Ghosh, N. N. : *The Early History of Kausambi*, p. 5

9. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, p. 324; Rapson, E. J. (Ed.) : *The Cambridge History of India*, Vol. I, p. 275

10. Raychaudhari, *op. cit.*, p. 134

11. Rapson, *op. cit.*, p. 153

12. Sastri, K. A. N. : *Age of the Nandas and Mauryas*, p. 17

13. Majumdar, *op. cit.*, p. 104

14. Bhandarkar, D. R. : *Asoka*, p. 26

from Kashmir to Mysore¹, this district forming a part of his empire². In 185 B. C. the region covering this district came under the control of Pushyamitra Sunga, who came to occupy the Magadha throne after assassinating Brihadratha, the last Mauryan king³. During his reign the Bactrian Greeks overran India, first under Demetrius and later on under Menander, as far as Ayodhya⁴. The discovery of some Bactrian coins in the district tends undoubtedly to indicate that the Greek armies passed through it when they invaded the country during the reign of Pushyamitra Sunga, spelling the collapse of the remnants of Sunga power in that region. Not long after the district came under the influence of Saka Satraps, who established themselves at Mathura after overpowering the Greeks during the first half of the first century B. C. The Sakas established themselves as the suzerains of almost the entire western Uttar Pradesh, including the district. A large number of coins of Rajuvula discovered at various places in the region, particularly in the western part of Uttar Pradesh and Punjab, are abundant testimony to the hegemony of the Sakas in these areas.

The clay seals and coins of the Yaudhaya kings indicate that they exercised their political authority over this region from about the latter part of the first century B.C. to that of first century A.D.⁵. Their territory extended roughly from the present Saharanpur in the east to Bahawalpur in the west, and from Ludhiana in the north-west to Delhi in the south-east⁶. The district came under the sway of the Kushana emperor Kanishka (78-120 A. D.)⁷ and remained a part of Kushana empire till the middle of the third century⁸ when the Yaudhaya regained their Independence after extirpating the declining power of the Kushanas from the eastern Punjab and the adjoining areas including this district⁹. In the middle of the fourth century A. D., the whole of Uttar Pradesh including this district, was annexed by Samudragupta to his empire. Till the beginning of the sixth century the district continued to form part of the Gupta empire and lay in the *Antarvedi Vishaya* (province) comprising the entire region between the Ganga and the Yamuna, corresponding to the doab between Hardwar and Prayag¹⁰. In 510 A. D. Tormana, a Huna invader, snatched a part of the Gupta empire and established his authority over the present Kashmir, Punjab, Rajputana, and the adjoining parts of the western Uttar Pradesh¹¹, including this district. By the early thirties of the sixth century A. D., after the Hunas had been driven from a greater part of northern India¹² and Gupta power,

1. Majumdar, *op. cit.*, p. 114

2. Bhandarkar, *op. cit.*, p. 53

3. Shastri, *op. cit.*, p. 246

4. Majumdar, *op. cit.*, pp. 116-17; Tripathi, *op. cit.*, p. 185

5. Majumdar, *op. cit.*, p. 130

6. Thaplyal, K. K. : *Studies in Ancient Indian Seals*, p. 21

7. Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalker, A. D. (Ed.) : *History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. III, pp. 141-42

8. Tripathi, *op. cit.*, p. 223

9. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. III, p. 168

10. *Ibid.*, p. 168

11. Majumdar, *op. cit.*, pp. 242-43

12. Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalker, A. S. : *The Vakataka Gupta Age*, (200-552 A. D.), pp. 204-05

had declined, the district passed under the rising power of the Maukhari kings of Kannauj¹. After the overthrow of the Maukharis by the Vardhans the district became part of the principalities of Thaneshwar and Srugna² in the kingdom of Kannauj under Harsha Vardhana (606-647 A.D.)³.

No material whatsoever, is available to enable the rendering of a chronologically connected account of the history of the district from the end of Harsha's reign up to the middle of the ninth century A. D., when the district became part of the Gurjara-Pratihara empire⁴. The Pratiharas continued to exercise sovereignty over this district till they were overthrown by Mahmud of Ghazni in 1018 A. D.⁵. The discovery of bull and horseman type of silver coins of Spalpatideva and Samantadeva of Ohind, of the Hindu Shahi dynasty of the 9th century A.D.⁶, does not lead to any definite conclusions about the influence which the Hindu Shahi dynasty exerted over the Pratiharas, beyond showing the existence of fairly close contacts between the two ruling houses.

After Mahmud's departure the Tomaras of Delhi, who had formerly submitted to the sovereignty of the Gurjara-Pratiharas, became independent and exercised their sway again over the region⁷ including this district. They continued up to the middle of the 12th century A. D., when the Chauhans occupied the kingdom of Delhi and Ajmer⁸. King Prithviraj (1178-1192 A.D.), who occupies an unparalleled place in Indian history⁹, brought under his control the local chieftains of Khudi (old name of Shikarpur) and Baghra¹⁰. His domination over this district ended when he met with a crushing defeat in the second battle of Taraori in 1192 A. D. at the hands of Shihab-ud-din Ghuri¹¹.

MEDIEVAL PERIOD

Qutb-ud-din Aibak, who was left by Shihab-ud-din Ghuri, in charge of his conquered territories in 1193 A. D. started consolidating his hold over his possessions including the area covered by this district¹². But the Jats who by now had risen into prominence in the district, would not allow the Muslim conquerors to establish themselves so easily. They gathered round one Vijai Rao of Sisauli and held meetings in 1201 A. D. at villages Bhaju and Bhanera in *khap* Baliyan, taking pledge to raise an army of

1. Tripathi, *op. cit.*, pp. 289-90, 297
2. Cunningham, A. : *The Ancient Geography of India*, pp. 277, 292; Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 157
3. Tripathi, *op. cit.*, p. 314
4. Mishra, V.B. : *The Gurjara Pratiharas and Their Times*, p. 24
5. Tripathi, R. S. : *History of Kanauj to the Moslem Conquest*, pp. 284-86
6. Brown, C. J. : *The Coins of India*, p. 53; Majumdar, *op. cit.*, p. 300; Tripathi : *History of Ancient India*, pp. 340-41
7. *Ibid.*, p. 329
8. Majumdar, *op. cit.*, p. 337
9. Tripathi, R. S. : *History of Ancient India*, p. 335; Majumdar, *op. cit.*, p. 336
10. Atkinson, E. (Ed.) : *Statistical, Descriptive and Historical Account of the North-Western Provinces of India*, Vol. III, pp. 582-85
11. Tripathi, R. S. : *History of Ancient India*, p. 336
12. Habibullah, A. B. M. : *The Foundation of Muslim Rule in India*, p. 82

60,000 to 1,00,000 from various *khaps* to defend their solidarity. All the *khaps* were subservient to a *sarv khap*, a political organisation formed to protect the territories of *khaps* from foreign invaders¹. However, it is not known whether these Jats offered any resistance to Qutb-ud-din, but they were forced to acknowledge the supremacy of Iltutmish, who had succeeded Aibak in 1211 A.D.² In 1255 A.D. the Jats, together with 225 representatives of various Hindu castes and communities of the upper doab, taking advantage of the unsettled affairs of the administration of Nasir-ud-din Mahmud (1246-66 A. D.), assembled at village Bhukarheri (*khap Badanu*) and protested against the imposition of taxes on religious worship and festivals³. In 1267 A.D. they again rose in rebellion blocking the roads leading to Delhi⁴. But they were quickly suppressed and order was restored in the region by Ghiyas-ud-din Balban (1266-87 A.D.)⁵. For crushing the power of the nobles, Balban tried to regulate the tenure of lands in the doab by resuming the *iqtas* (grants of land) enjoyed by Shamsi noblemen since the time of Iltutmish, but the resumption order was withdrawn. However, the grantees lost much of their former influence.⁶

With the passing of the throne of Delhi from the slave dynasty to the Khalji kings, the district became a part of Ala-ud-din Khalji's (1296-1316 A. D.) empire⁷. Numismatic evidence in the form of seventy-nine silver coins of Ala-ud-din Khalji released from the mints of Delhi Hazrat fort between the years 699 to 715 H. (1300-1315 A.D.) and found in the Muzaffarnagar city, confirms this⁸. During his reign the *sarv khap* council at a meeting held at Shikarpur, *khap* Baliyan in 1297 A. D., lodged vigorous protest⁹ against his tyrannical measures e. g. forcing the local Hindu peasantry to pay one-half of the gross produce of their land, house tax, and grazing tax on all milch cattle¹⁰. In 1305 A.D. Baliyan *khap* army leader, Ram Rao Rana, conquered the village Shoron, a stronghold of the Muslims, as well as the adjoining area. Shoron, ultimately, became the military stronghold of the *khap* army and the seat of the hereditary vizirs of the *khap* Baliyan¹¹.

From the discovery of some coins in the district issued in the name of Ghiyas-ud-din Tughluq, the first ruler of the Tughluq dynasty, it is evident that he had his sway over this district as well¹². The village Tughlaqpur, named after Muhammad-bin-Tughluq (1325-1351 A.D.), the second ruler of this dynasty, proves

1. Pradhan, M. C. : *The Political System of the Jats of Northern India*, p. 252
2. Prasad, Dr I. : *History of Medieval India*, p. 138 ; Habibullah, *op. cit.*, pp. 92-93
3. Pradhan, *op. cit.*, pp. 254, 261-62
4. Haig, Sir W. (Ed.) : *The Cambridge History of India*, Vol. III, p. 76
5. *Ibid.*, p. 73
6. Prasad, Dr I., *op. cit.*, pp. 161-62
7. *Ibid.*, pp. 182, 199,
8. A note received from the State Museum, U. P.
9. Pradhan, *op. cit.*, pp. 254-55
10. Prasad Dr I., *op. cit.*, pp. 208-09 ; Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalker, A. D. : *History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. VI, p. 23
11. Pradhan, *op. cit.*, p. 22
12. A note received from the State Museum, U. P.

that he exercised his authority over this district also¹. Along with the other parts of the doab this district suffered heavy taxation under the Sultan in 1331-32 A.D.². His successor Firuz Tughluq (1351-88 A.D.) also tried to lighten the fiscal burden on the cultivators of this doab district by reducing the land revenue demand, providing irrigational facilities, and abolishing levy of benevolences³. In 1398-99 A.D. the district was overrun by the invading hordes of Timur, from Central Asia⁴. Having captured the fort of Meerut, Timur marched upon village Firozpur in pargana Bhukarheri of this district. From there he advanced crossing the Ganga and encountered local opposition near the village of Tughlaqpur.

Timur left the region in a state of utter confusion, and though Mahmud Tughluq still occupied the throne of Delhi, he had no power and influence⁵. Many of the chiefs of the doab and the adjacent area felt tempted to defy his authority⁶. The *sarv khap* council held a meeting in 1403 A. D. at Shikarpur in *khap* Baliyan for raising an army to protect *khap* areas and to safeguard agricultural produce, life, and property⁷. In 1414 A.D. the district passed into the hands of the Saiyids when Khizr Khan, a deputy of Timur, occupied the throne of Delhi. Although he professed to be only his viceroy, he laid the foundation of the dynasty of the Saiyids⁸. The Saiyid kings of Delhi patronised the four clans—Tihanpuri, Chhatrauri, Jagneri, and Kundliwal—of the Barha Saiyids who had settled in this district in the middle of the 14th century⁹. They derived their names from the four villages near Patiala in the sirkar of Sirhind and the subah of Delhi¹⁰. According to tradition they settled in the district at Dhasri, Kumhera, Bidauli, etc., because of its vicinity to Delhi where they could be employed in large numbers in the court. Salim, chief among the Barha Saiyids, who was appointed as governor of the neighbouring district of Saharanpur, by Khizr Khan, was also favourably disposed towards his kinsmen residing in this district¹¹.

The district continued to be under the sway of the Lodi sultans of Delhi and witnessed considerable political activity under them. During the closing years of the reign of Ibrahim Lodi, his authority became shaky from internal feuds and disaffection. His policy of repression and stern attitude towards his nobles made them disloyal and defiant¹². Babur, taking advantage of the situation¹³, overpowered the Afghans and, marching through this

1. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 332

2. Ziya-ud-din Barani : *Tarikh-i-Firuzshahi*, (Hindi translation of extracts by Rizvi : *Tughlaq Kaleen Bharat*, Part I, pp. 40-41)

3. Haig, *op. cit.*, p. 138; Habib, M. and Nizami, K. A. : *Comprehensive History of India*, (1206-1526), p. 539

4. Pande, A. B. : *The First Afghan Empire in India*, p. 26

5. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. VI, p. 121

6. *Ibid.*, p. 122

7. Pradhan, *op. cit.*, p. 256

8. Haig, *op. cit.*, p. 204; Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. VI, p. 123

9. Crooks, *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, pp. 303-04

10. Irwin, W. : *Later Mughals*, Vol. I, pp. 201-02; Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 154; Haig, *op. cit.*, p. 74

11. Elliot and Dowson, *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, pp. 46, 68; Atkinson, *op. cit.*, pp. 247-48; Lal, K. S., *op. cit.*, p. 73

12. Tripathi, R. R. : *Rise and Fall of the Mughal Empire*, p. 28

13. Pandey, A. B. : *The First Afghan Empire in India*, p. 205

district¹, reached Panipat in 1526 A. D. He inflicted a crushing defeat on the Lodis². The *sarv khap* leaders resented the developments, and decided at Sisauli in *khap* Baliyan to provide 25,000 soldiers to Rana Sangram Singh, who fought the battle of Khanwa³, but was defeated by Babur despite his supreme fighting prowess⁴. The area, including the district of Muzaffarnagar, thus passed under the control of Babur. After him his son Humayun took over in 1530 A. D.⁵.

The Saiyids of the district rendered singular service during Humayun's flight to Iran⁶ after his defeat by Sher Shah in 1539-40⁷. On his return a few years later, they were suitably rewarded and given high ranks in the imperial administration⁸.

The district was brought under the sway of Akbar (1556-1605 A.D.)⁹ after the second battle of Panipat in 1556 A.D. in which he was helped by a prominent Barha Saiyid, Mahmud Khan of Kundliwal branch, a resident of Majehra¹⁰.

During Akbar's reign the area covered by the present district of Muzaffarnagar fell in the subah of Delhi, and was divided into units of revenue administration called *mahals*. With the exception of the pargana of Kandhla, which lay in the sirkar of Delhi, the district was governed by the sirkar of Saharanpur. The present parganas of Muzaffarnagar and Gordhanpur were then known as Sarwat and Tughlaqpur respectively. The Akbari parganas of Kairana and Banat constitute the present pargana of Shamli. The parganas of Jauli-Jansath and Shikarpur are made up of the old parganas of Jauli and portions of two old Akbari parganas of Soron-Palri and Khudi respectively. The pargana of Thana Bhawan was then known as Thana Bhim. Bhuma and Sambalhera were separate parganas. Bhuma is now included with Sambalhera as one pargana¹¹.

The history of Akbar's later reign is also replete with the glories of the Barha Saiyids of this district. They helped to save the mighty empire of Delhi from crumbling before heavy odds on more than one occasion¹². Hasan Fakhr-ud-din, one of the Saiyids of Chhatrauri branch, who resided near Sambalhera, enjoyed favour at Akbar's court. He exercised his influence to procure for his friend, the local raja of Sambalhera (then a small estate), the confirmation of the dignity to his son Ram Chandra. On Ram Chandra's dying issueless, Fakhr-ud-din procured the right of suc-

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1. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 158
 2. Lane-Pool : Babar, p. 161 ; *The Babur Nama or Memoir of Babur* (English translation by A. S. Beveridge, Vol. II, pp. 469-70)
 3. Pradhan, *op. cit.*, p. 257
 4. *Ibid.*, Tripathi, *op. cit.*, p. 42
 5. Pandey, A. B. : *Later Medieval India*, p. 24
 6. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, p. 592 ; Crooks, *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, p. 304
 7. Prasad, Dr I. : *The Life and Times of Humayun*, p. 155
 8. Haig, *op. cit.*, pp. 67-69
 9. *Ibid.*, pp. 70-71
 10. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, p. 59
 11. Abul Fazal : *Ain-i-Akbari*, (translated into English by H. S. Jarrett), Vol. II, pp. 291-97
 12. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, pp. 597

cession for the widow, who being pleased with his conduct made over to him the entire property as gift. The Saiyid assumed possession of Sambalhera and the adjoining estates with the court's sanction¹. Internal autonomy and religious freedom were granted to the *khap* councils under *sarv khap* by Akbar through certain mandates. The *khap* Baliyan along with other *Khaps* were given the right to collect land revenue and other agricultural taxes from the respective *khap* areas. The *khap* councils were given complete freedom in judicial matters, and their leaders, who were hereditary, were recognised by the Delhi court. They had freedom to carry out their social and religious functions in accordance with their customs and laws. The *jazia* i. e. the religious tax against which the leaders of the *khaps* and *sarv khaps* had been protesting was also abolished². Thirty-three coins of Akbar's reign have been found in the village of Garhi³.

The Saiyids of the district continued to be held in high esteem by the emperor Jahangir (1605-1627 A.D.) also. Sheikh Hasan known as Hassu, who was prominent among them, rose to great eminence, being awarded the title of Muqarrab Khan⁴. Jahangir found him "very active and alert in his service". Besides being a mighty soldier he was a renowned surgeon of his time⁵. He developed a beautiful mango grove with a large tank in Kairana, his home town⁶. Nurjahan, the queen empress, visited and appreciated it very much⁷. Tradition has it that Nurjahan had a residential palace in Nurnagar, tahsil Muzaffarnagar, named after her⁸.

During Jahangir's reign a number of monuments were erected the chief being the tomb of a resident of Jhinjhana Sheikh Abdul Razzak, and of his four sons, and the mosque constructed by the Sheikh⁹. A silver coin of Jahangir issued in 1623 A.D. has been found in village Sambalhera¹⁰.

In course of time the Tihanpuri branch of the Saiyids far out stripped their kinsmen of the Kundliwal branch in respect of imperial favours and elevation to rank and power¹¹. Thus Muzaffar Khan, of former branch, was honoured by Shahjahan for his loyal services in various military campaigns; the title of Khan-i-Jahan¹² was conferred on him along with the award of a jagir of forty villages in parganas Khatauli and Sarwat. As Sarwat was almost uninhabited, Muzaffar Khan laid the foundation of a new town there. It was completed by his son, Saiyid Abdul Mansur, after his death in 1645 A. D. He named the new town Muzaffar-

1. *Ibid.*, p. 597

2. Pradhan, *op. cit.*, p. 106

3. A note received from the State Museum, U. P.

4. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, p. 589

5. *The Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri on Memoirs of Jahangir* (English translation by A. Rogers and Henry Beveridge), Vol. I, pp. 27-28

6. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 268

7. *The Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri*, Vol. II, pp. 111-112

8. Nevill, *op. cit.*, pp. 2, 332

9. *Ibid.*, p. 264

10. A note received from the State Museum, U. P.

11. Cadell, *op. cit.*, p. 25; Nevill, *op. cit.*, pp. 167-68

12. Tripathi, *op. cit.*, pp. 424-25, 431-32; Saxena. Dr. R. P. : *History of Shah Jahan of Delhi*, pp. 77-82

nagar after his father¹. The name did not remain restricted to the town only and in course of time the district also came to be called Muzaffarnagar. Saiyid Abdul Mansur's name is preserved in the name of village Mansurpur, in pargana Khatauli².

A number of gold and silver coins of Shahjahan have been discovered in Sambalhera and Jansath³. The Afghan mosque in Kairana was constructed by the emperor who also got a serai established at Khatauli⁴. During the same period a mosque was constructed by Saiyid Makhan, a resident of Sambalhera⁵.

The Saiyids of the district rendered considerable services to the emperor Aurangzeb (1658 to 1707 A. D.) also in his military campaigns⁶. Nothing, however, of importance is known about the local history during his reign, except the discovery of some coins in Sambalhera⁷, the construction of two mosques at Thana Bhawan⁸ and Shamli⁹, and of a fort at Khudda built by Nawab Abdulla Khan, who also founded it¹⁰.

MODERN PERIOD

When Aurangzeb died in 1707 A.D., the Tihanpuri branch of the Saiyids, who had been holding sway since the 16th century along with other branches of the Barha Saiyids in the sirkar of Saharanpur, again rose to prominence. After the battle of Jajau, near Agra, in 1707, Bahadur Shah became emperor and the two Saiyid brothers, Hasan and Hussain, who were given jagirs of Allahabad and Patna respectively, became king-makers¹¹. The reputation of the Saiyids of Muzaffarnagar was at its apex during the reigns of the unassertive rulers at Delhi, but then their acquisitions in this district were not of a permanent nature.

During the campaign undertaken by the emperor in 1709 against rebellious Hindu princes in the Narbada region, the Saiyids supported the emperor in crushing them. The first Sikh invasion of the district occurred about the same time, when under the leadership of Banda, a large body of Sikhs crossing the Yamuna, advanced into Saharanpur, penetrating upto the northern parganas of Muzaffarnagar. Jalal-ud-din, the jagirdar of Saharanpur sirkar which included the present district, was then at Jalalabad in Muzaffarnagar. He decided to oppose the Sikhs and was killed¹².

1. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, p. 600

2. *Ibid.*, pp. 702-03

3. A note received from the State Museum, U. P.

4. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, pp. 686-87

5. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 284

6. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, p. 602

7. A note received from the State Museum, U. P.

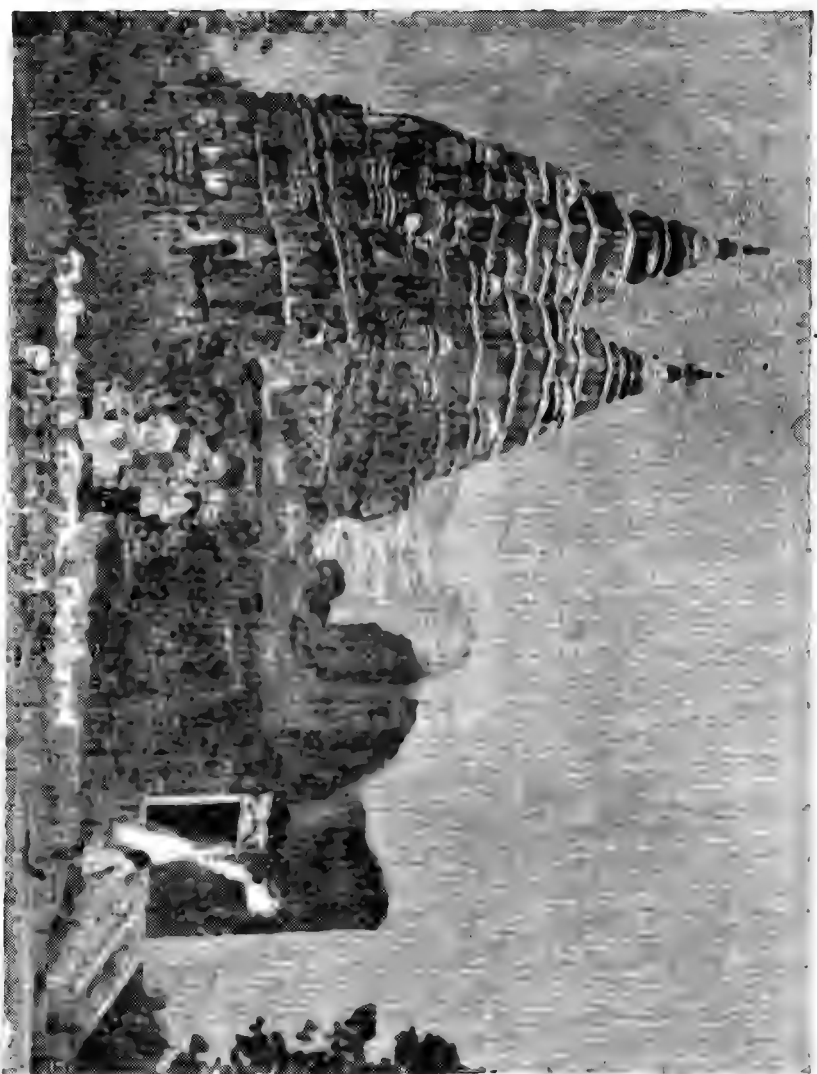
8. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 325

9. *Ibid.*, p. 268

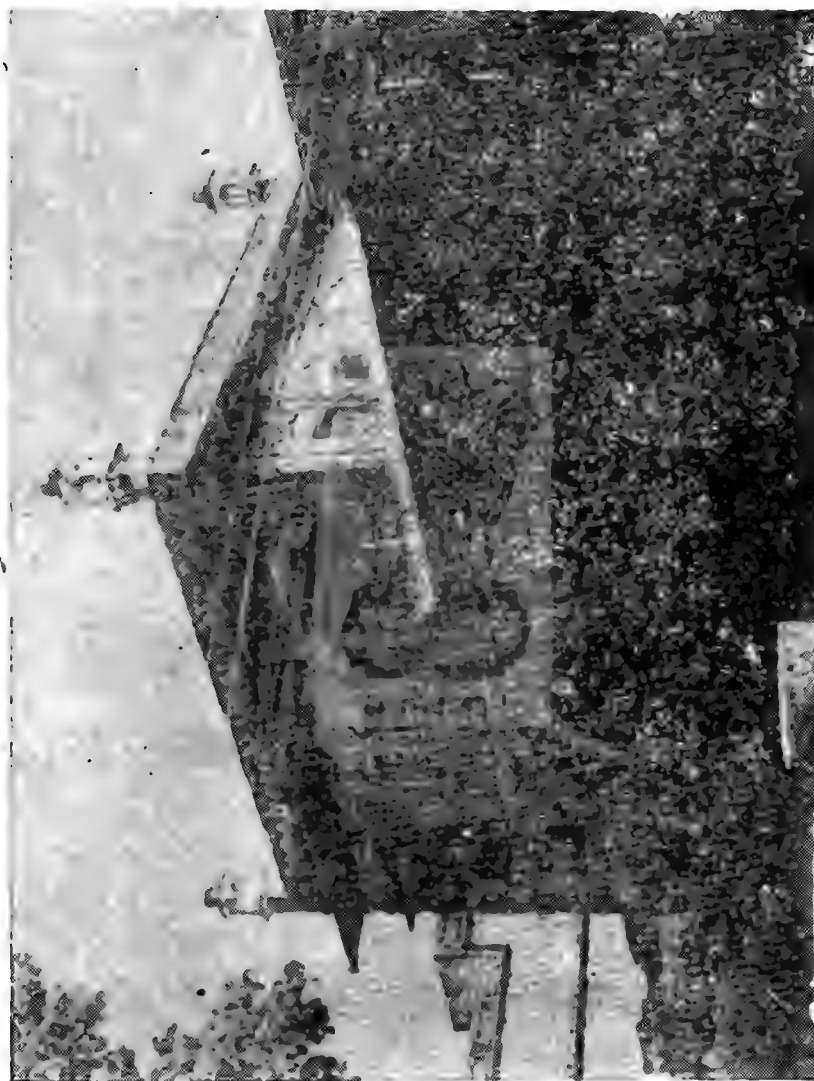
10. *Ibid.*, p. 289

11. Burn, R. (Ed.) : *The Cambridge History of India*, Vol. IV, p. 395

12. Nevill : *Saharanpur*, A Gazetteer, p. 188 ; Elliot and Dowson : *Later Moghuls*, p. 32



Thakurdwara (Temple), Charthawal
(Reign of Jahangir)



Rang Mahal (residence of Saiyids), Jansath

The power enjoyed by the Saiyids at Delhi had resulted in hostility towards them. They, therefore, transferred their allegiance from Jahandar Shah to his nephew Farrukh Siyar, who ascended the throne in 1713¹, after the battles of Sarai Alam Chand at Allahabad, and at Agra. The spoils of victory brought lofty honours to the Saiyid brothers. Saiyid Hasan Ali Khan was named Saiyid Abdulla, besides being elevated to the rank of a vizir with the title of Qutb-ul-Mulk, while his brother Saiyid Husain Ali, was appointed Mir Bakhshi (pay master general) with the title of Amir-ul-Mumalik. The latter was subsequently transferred to the governorship of the Deccan in 1714. The weak and indecisive rule of Farrukh Siyar was brought to an end in 1719, the Saiyid brothers playing an important role in the process. The event was followed by an inconspicuous successor to the throne, Rafi-ud-Darajat, who died after an insignificant rule lasting four months. He was followed by Muhammad Shah who ascended the throne in September, 1719. Power did not remain for long with the Saiyids, Husain being murdered near Agra in 1720, and Hasan, who was imprisoned at the instance of Itrnad-ud-daula, was subsequently poisoned in 1724 in the prison itself². The removal of the Saiyid brothers from the political scene cast a gloom on the glory of the Saiyids in the region comprising the present district, particularly in their estates in tahsil Jansath.

The estates held by the Saiyid brothers, Husain and Hasan, were transferred to Muhammad Amin Khan alias Itrnad-ud-daula, who wielded influence during 1720-21³. On his death in 1721, the benefits provided to the Saiyid brothers were conferred on Amin Khan's son, Qamar-ud-din Khan, who became vizir in 1723. His attitude, too, remained hostile towards the Saiyids of this region. His first effort was to post them as far away as possible from the seat of imperial authority. In 1737, he sent Marhamat Khan to Saharanpur with instructions to occupy the jagir of the Tihanpuri Saiyid, Saif-ud-din, at Jansath, along with other lands held by the Saiyids in and around the sirkar of Saharanpur. The stern steps taken by Marhamat Khan caused great consternation among the Saiyids who rose united and carried out severe reprisals, killing the aggressor. Enraged by their resistance, Qamar-ud-din sent another expedition consisting mainly of Turanis, led by Ali Muhammad Rohilla and the three Saiyids of the Chhatrauri branch, viz., Azimulla Khan, Nusrat Yar Khan, and Rukn-ud-daula, the only ones who participated against their Tihanpuri brethren. In the ensuing battle of Bhainsi, 7 miles from Jansath, in 1737, Saif-ud-din was killed, an event which gave the Saiyids of this region a severe blow. In return for his services, Ali Muhammad was honoured with the title of Nawab and the right to *naubat*⁴, i. e. having the kettle-drum played on his arrival at official or private

1. *Ibid.*, p. 164

2. Srivastava, A. L. : *Awadh Ke Pratham Do Nawab* (Hindi), pp. 17, 19; Nevill, H. R. : *Muzaffarnagar, A Gazetteer*, p. 164

3. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 165

4. Sarkar, J. N. : *Fall of the Moghul Empire*, Vol. I, p. 49; Atkinson, E. T. : *Statistical, Descriptive and Historical Account of the N. W. P.* (Meerut Division), Vol. II, part I, pp. 82-83; Nevill, H. R., *op. cit.*, pp. 165, 166, 169

functions. The Chhatrauri Saiyids were granted twenty-eight villages in Ahmedabad in Gujarat¹. This was followed by a large-scale migration of the Saiyids, who left their ancestral holdings in this region and shifted to more distant places like Lucknow, Aonla, and Nagina².

Azim-ulla Khan now established his authority here. He assumed control of the erstwhile Saiyid jagirs and distributed them among others³. Nadir Shah's invasion in 1739 was followed by chaos and confusion. The Rohillas, exploiting the situation, extended their domain beyond the Ganga. In 1740, Azim-ulla Khan was replaced by Hafiz-ud-din Khan who held charge for two years. He was deposed in 1742, and replaced by Zafar Khan, better known as Rukn-ud-daula, who continued as governor of this tract during the reign of Muhammad Shah (1719-48).

The Saiyids of this region in the succeeding few years had been reduced to a depressed minority in this district, and all their efforts for conciliation were thwarted by the Pathans, who had the Gujar chiefs of Bahsuma in Meerut, and of Landhaura in Saharanpur, as their allies. The construction of a Pathan fort at Shukartal in tahsil Jansath, created further trouble for them. The Jats and the Rajputs, formerly subservient to the Saiyids, now made common cause against them. The Gujar chief of Landhaura received Pur Chappar on the north, and Bhukarheri on the east. The Bahsuma Gujar chief received Bhuma, Khatauli, and Jansath. Wherever the Gujar failed to assert themselves, the village communities declared themselves independent. In the process of distribution, the pargana of Muzaffarnagar was included in the jagir given to the nawab of Karnal in the Punjab. After the successive deaths of vizir Qamar-ud-din and emperor Muhammad Shah in 1748 at Delhi, the latter's son Ahmad Shah ascended the throne and appointed Safdar Jang as his vizir, thus provoking the Bangash Pathans, who were in league with Udham Bai, the emperor's mother, and others. The Rohillas under Ali Muhammad also threw off all pretence of allegiance, and invaded the Mughal territories of the upper doab which included this district. After a fierce struggle Safdar Jang was able to crush the uprising. However, his troubles had not ended yet, as Ghazi-ud-din, the commander-in-chief, retired to the Deccan and died there, being succeeded by Mir-Shahab-ud-din, his nephew, who assumed the name of Ghazi-ud-din, the title of Aamad-ul-Mulk, and led the coalition against Safdar Jang⁴.

Meanwhile in 1751, Ahmad Shah Abdali appeared again in the Punjab, and Safdar Jang was invited to the capital by the emperor. Though not equipped to face the invader himself, Safdar Jang hastened to the imperial court. On the advice of his Maratha allies, Holkar and Sindhia, he concluded peace with the Pathans, in order to concentrate on Abdali. Following the treaty of Lucknow in February 1752, between the Marathas and Safdar Jang, the former obtained a large territory in the doab including the present district,

1. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 169

2. *Ibid.*, p. 166

3. Nevill : *Saharanpur : A Gazetteer*, p. 169

4. Atkinson, E. T. : *Statistical, Historical and Descriptive Account of N. W. Provinces* (Meerut Div.), Part II, Vol. V, pp. 87-90

in lieu of their expenses and dues and continued holding it till 1803, when Lord Lake conquered it from Sindhia¹. The emperor, however, refused to ratify this treaty as he was worried about the growing power of Safdar Jang. The Marathas thereupon forcibly occupied the territories of the upper doab around Saharanpur and began collecting taxes². After the departure of Holkar and Sindhia from Delhi, the Pathans and the Rohillas again made common cause with the queen-mother Udham Bai against Safdar Jang, driving the Maratha agents from the doab and forcing them to desert Safdar Jang, who was eventually defeated along with his ally, the Jat raja Suraj Mal, and was dismissed from vizirship. Azizuddin, son-in-law of late Qamar-ud-din, called Intizam-ud-daula Khankhana³, who was managing Ghazi-ud-din's jagir of Bawani Mahal which included bulk of the present district of Muzaffarnagar, and appointed him the vizir⁴. Meanwhile Najib khan, an Afghan, married the daughter of Dundi khan, the Rohilla chief, and joined Ghazi-ud-din in the expedition against Safdar Jang⁵. He was sent to Saharanpur sirkar to subdue the militant Jats and on being successful in the venture was awarded a jagir in the doab in addition to the right of management of Ghazi-ud-din's jagir of Bawani Mahal, earlier administered by vizir Intizam-ud-daula.

Ghazi-ud-din, the most powerful figure at the imperial court, laid siege to the royal palace in 1754 and, crossing the Yamuna, plundered several areas including the prosperous tract of the upper doab. While proceeding farther, he attacked the emperor in his camp at Sikandrabad in June 1754, deposed him, raised Alamgir II to the throne, proclaiming himself vizir in place of Intizam-ud-daula. Najib Khan was engaged in a fierce battle in the doab to consolidate his position there. Taking advantage of the disturbed situation, a body of Sikhs raided the jagir of Najib pushing farther 'o Saharanpur and Shamli in Muzaffarnagar. Learning this, Najib Khan appealed to Shah Abdali for help, in response to which the latter despatched his son, Jahan Khan, with a force of 8,000 soldiers. Moving forward with extraordinary speed, Jahan Khan reached Shamli only to find that the Sikhs had withdrawn into the Punjab before his arrival. Ahmad Shah Abdali marched to Delhi in 1757, and removed Ghazi-ud-din from vizirship while confirming Alamgir II as emperor. He then entered the doab and plundered the Jat estates thereafter that Abdali reinstated Ghazi-ud-din as vizir and made Najib-ud-daula the Mir Bakshi, and returned to his country⁶.

After Abdali's departure, Ghazi-ud-din invited the Marathas to help him against Najib, and the Maratha leaders, Vithal Shivdev, and Renko Anaji, seized all territories belonging to the

1. Sardesai, G. S. : *New History of the Marathas*, Vol. II, (Poona, 1948), p. 364

2. *Ibid.*, p. 366

3. *Ibid.*, p. 368

4. Atkinson, E. T., *op. cit.*, p. 87

5. Sardesai, *op. cit.*, p. 368

6. *Ibid.*, p. 387; Srivastava, A. L. : *The Mughul Empire*, pp. 493, 494

Rohillas, including Bawani Mahal in this district, in August 1757¹. Najib received protection from Malhar Rao Holkar and was able to get himself reinstated in his jagir in the doab. He was also restored to the office of Mir Bakshi by Ahmad Khan Bangash. The Maratha leader, Dattaji, made a permanent arrangement of this tract and the adjoining doab. Najib also collected a sizable force and openly defied the Maratha captains Dattaji and Jankoji in the region of Saharanpur and Muzaffarnagar. Finding the vizir slack, Dattaji decided first to settle the affairs in the Punjab and the neighbouring areas, and then conduct operations against Najib. In May 1759, crossing the Yamuna, he reached the upper doab as far as Muzaffarnagar². Najib at this stage chose to play along with Dattaji's camp on the one hand, and on the other, sent envoys to the Bangash nawab of Farrukhabad and the Nawab of Avadh, seeking their help against the Marathas. A meeting was arranged between Dattaji and Najib at Shukartal in Muzaffarnagar, which could not, however, materialize as Najib was forcibly removed from the venue by some of the Rohilla chieftains. Negotiations from this point onwards were carried through their agents. The subsequent agreement arrived at ensured Najib's support to Dattaji in carrying his troops across the Ganga, by a boat-bridge which was to be constructed by Jait Singh, a Gujar zamindar of Shukartal. As the bridge could not be raised because of the flooded river, Dattaji's men stood locked at Shukartal. In the meantime Najib Khan entrenched himself at Shukartal so formidably that the Marathas could not easily attack him. He collected troops and within a couple of months as the bridge became ready, instead of its serving Dattaji's purpose, it became a most convenient channel for Najib himself to bring in supplies and maintain communications with the Pathans beyond. In the meantime, the forces of Hafiz Rahmat Khan and Shuja-ud-daula joined Najib and marched towards Shukartal to besiege Dattaji, who promptly sent Govind Pant Bundela beyond the Ganga to cut off Najib's supplies and prevent the Rohillas from joining him, but Govind Pant was defeated by Hafiz Rahmat Khan. Meanwhile the advance guard of Shuja-ud-daula's army under Anupgir Gosain crossed the Ganga by the bridge and joined Najib at Shukartal at the end of November 1758. Dattaji thereupon besieged Najib's camp³ and the latter appealed to Ahmad Shah Abdali again, who sent an army under Jahan Khan which was defeated by Sabaji Sindhia. On his subsequent defeat, Abdali himself came and defeated Sabaji at Sirhind. Sabaji returned to Shukartal and urged Dattaji to concentrate on Abdali. Having inflicted losses on the Marathas at Sirhind, Abdali marched towards the doab. Avoiding a direct confrontation with Dattaji he pressed on towards Delhi and at the ensuing battle of Barari Ghat in January 1760, Dattaji was defeated and killed, and Najib got ample opportunity to assert his presence here.

After Dattaji's fall the Peshwa in Poona entrusted Sadashiv Bhau with the task of regaining the lost Maratha glory in this tract. Bhau reached Delhi on 2nd August, 1760. Meanwhile Abdali

1. *Ibid.*, pp. 386, 387 ; Srivastava, *op. cit.*, p. 494

2. Sardesai, *op. cit.*, pp. 404, 405

3. Sardesai, *op. cit.*, p. 407; Srivastava, *A. I.*, *op. cit.*, p. 495

had moved from the capital to Najib's territory, with the intention of avoiding confrontation with the Marathas and of extracting money and provisions for his troops. He intended leaving after a peaceful settlement with the Marathas, but Najib, fearing reprisals at the hands of Bhau, urged him to stay on, which he did¹. On the eve of the third battle of Panipat in 1760, Bhau sought aid from many quarters against Abdali. He also appealed to the Jats to help in what he described as a 'national cause'. In response, a meeting of all the *khaps** was held at Sisauli under the presidentship of one Danat Rai of Muzaffarnagar, and an army consisting of about 20,000 men was raised under the leadership of Chaudhari Shivalal of Shoron.

The Marathas were, however, defeated at the battle of Panipat in 1761. The period of their recovery from this set-back was utilised by the Jats in building up their own position here. Jawahar Singh, the successor of Suraj Mal (the Jat raja of Bharatpur), extended Jat power to the mid-doab, including Muzaffarnagar. He fixed his residence at Agra, pushing the Marathas to the background here. Sikh incursions in this area, which had ceased after the death of Banda, restarted after the battle of Panipat. A sizable body of Sikh horsemen crossed the Yamuna in 1763 and having traversed Saharanpur went as far as Muzaffarnagar, attacking the town of Miranpur in Bhukarheri.

Again in 1764, the place was subjected to the onslaughts of the Budhadal (a name acquired by the Sikhs). The Sikh supremacy at this stage extended from the Siwaliks in the north to Meerut in the south. A Maratha agent reported in 1767: "Bhaduar and Khिताuli (probably Khatauli) all are gone from us, only a small tract remains all else is under Jat rule²."

Najib steadily consolidated his position in this region (till his death in 1770). He expelled Maratha revenue collectors from this region in 1764³. His absence from the doab, mostly owing to his participation in the court affairs at Delhi, gave comparative freedom to the Sikhs to raid this part. In May 1767 a Sikh inroad into this territory was, however, met with better resistance by the imperial troops at Kairana and Shamli. The Sikhs reappeared as soon as Najib's men left for Delhi. Their ravages were felt rather severely in Miranpur and Kandhla of tahsil Jansath, till Najib took the field and cleared the area of their presence⁴. The continued forages of the Sikhs in this territory gave birth to a parallel system of taxation, which included '*raki*' or blanket money, (also known as *kambli*), within the tracts temporarily subjected to their control. Each tract was called a *patti*. Collections from individuals, normally varying between

1. Sardesai, *op. cit.*, p. 418

*The *khap*, a clan organisation (similar to *panchayats*) of the Jats, can still be found in the districts of western U. P. and Haryana. The central committee of this unit is known as *Saru khap*.

2. Dharm Bhanu : *History and Administration of the North Western Provinces* (1803-54), (Agra 1957), p. 16

3. Keene H. G. : *The Fall of the Moghul Empire*, (Delhi, 1907), p. 81

4. Nevill, *op. cit.*, pp. 175, 176

Rs 2 and Rs 5 per head, were generally made by two or three Sikh horsemen. The term *kambli* apparently owed its origin to *kambal* i.e. the blanket gear used by the Sikhs for their steeds, the tax levied on each villager or headman being on an average equivalent to the weight of the blanket used¹.

The construction of a large number of mud-forts all along the tract in the first half of the 13th century, is indicative of the sense of insecurity prevailing among the people in this region, in the absence of an authority to protect them in times of crisis².

Najib-ud-daula died in 1770 and his son Zabita Khan was detained at the Maratha camp. However, Tukoji Holkar, secretly removed and released him. He wrested the office of Mir Bakshi from the Emperor Shah Alam II, then marching against Ram Chandra Pant, the Maratha agent in the doab³. However, the Rohillas and the Bangash Pathans were severely defeated and all the Marathas possessions in the doab (before Panipat) were restored to them. In 1771 Mahadaji Sindhia captured Delhi from Zabita, who remained the only mischief-maker in the north. In order to punish him, Mahadaji and Visaji, with the emperor at their head and some 90,000 Marathas, raided the fief of Zabita in February 1772, the latter fleeing and taking shelter in his paternal jagir of Bawani Mahal which consisted of 52 parganas, now included in the districts of Saharanpur and Muzaffarnagar. This also contained three strongholds, Pathargarh (later Najibabad in Bijnor) on the left, Shukartal on the right of the Ganga, and Ghausgarh, near Muzaffarnagar, which was built by Zabita Khan himself, the site being marked by a big mosque of fine proportions⁴.

The Marathas now made Morna, in tahsil Jansath, their temporary headquarters and raided and plundered Ghausgarh, which was hurriedly evacuated on their approach. Shukartal was also captured by Mahadaji on 4th March, 1772. Zabita fled to the Jat country and concluded a treaty with the nawab of Avadh in 1772 which later proved fatal to the Rohillas⁵. He was compelled to secure his stronghold at Ghausgarh, in tahsil Kairana, at the considerable price of Rs 50,000 to be paid to the Sikhs who had recommenced large-scale attacks in this territory in 1774 and 1775. The incidence of their ravages was felt at Miranpur, in tahsil Jansath, the other affected areas being Shamli, Kairana, and Kandhla. Zabita Khan effected a merger with the Sikhs against whom he despaired of moving. In 1776, he rebelled against the emperor with the help of the Sikhs. Crossing the Yamuna in Muzaffarnagar in a fairly large number, the Sikhs joined him at Ghausgarh, the fort between Saharanpur and Muzaffarnagar, and drove the imperial forces out. The joint army of the Sikhs and the Rohillas was intercepted at Budhana, and after a retreat to Baghra

1. Nevill, *op. cit.*, pp. 176, 177

2. *Ibid.* p. 177

3. Sardesai, *op. cit.*, Vol. II. p. 511

4. *Ibid.* p. 515; Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 177

5. *Ibid.* p. 100; Dodwell, H. H. (Ed.) : *The Cambridge History of India*, Vol. V, p. 217

and Amirnagar; they suddenly swooped down on the imperial forces, routing them completely¹. Zabita Khan was so enthusiastic about this coalition that he even decided to become a follower of Guru Nanak under the new name of Dharam Singh according to Franklin. This perhaps gave rise to the proverb current in this tract, '*Ek guru ke do chela, adha Sikh adha Ruhela*' (i.e., one preceptor has two disciples, half Sikh and half Rohilla)². The Sikh Rohilla pact was subverted by the joint armies of the Mughul emperor and the nawab of Avadh, following a bloody battle between Amirnagar and Ghausgarh in which the Sikhs were put to flight across the Yamuna. In the ensuing peace that was concluded³, Zabita Khan had to relinquish his paternal property in Muzaffarnagar and Saharanpur. The estate was now to be administered by Sumroo (Sombre, the French noble), the zamindar of Sardhana (in Meerut), who was an ally of the Marathas. Muzaffarnagar was thus placed under the indirect control of the Marathas. The Sikhs regarded Zabita Khan as their enemy and again started pouring into the upper doab, including Muzaffarnagar⁴.

The entire upper doab was subjugated by the Sikhs under their leader Baghel Singh in 1783, their predominance increasing in the territory of this district at an alarming rate. In 1785, the Sikh leaders, Rai Singh Bhangi and his nephew Sher Singh, marched into the doab and sacked Miranpur, a town situated some 20 miles from Muzaffarnagar, pushing their raids further eastwards into Rohilkhand, while Zabita made merry within the walls of his fort at Ghausgarh⁵. However, a large Sikh contingent pressing towards Muzaffarnagar after sacking Jansath was defeated in 1788 by Ghulam Qadir, the son of Zabita Khan⁶ who, in turn, was executed by the Marathas in the same year. Having captured Meerut, the Marathas marched northwards through the doab, annexing districts in the northern portion of this tract. The first governor of this possession was Ghani Bahadur of Banda. Striking a conciliatory attitude towards the Sikhs, he allowed many of the Sikh leaders to hold possession of Muzaffarnagar along with Saharanpur, partly as farmers and partly as beneficiaries in lieu of the dues they customarily levied⁷. Rai Singh of Jagadhari who had earlier taken possession of certain parganas in Saharanpur in 1790, was obliged by the new Maratha agent Bhairab Pant Tantiya, to turn these over after an year. He, however, retained Nakur in the present district of Saharanpur. Another Sikh leader, Gurdatt Singh of Ladwa, obtained the parganas of Jhijnjhana, Kandhla, and Shamli and held them with Karnal for twelve years. Bhangra Singh yet another Sikh leader, was given Bidauli and Kairana. All of them undertook to protect jointly the doab from fresh Sikh incursions from the Punjab, but this agreement was short-

1. Nevill, *op. cit.*, pp. 177, 178 ; Keene : *Fall of the Moghul Empire*, p. 126

2. Nevill : *Muzaffarnagar : A Gazetteer*, p. 178

3. Keene, *op. cit.*, p. 128; Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 178

4. Keene, *op. cit.*, p. 128 ; Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 178

5. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 179

6. Banerji, B. : *Begum Sumro*, p. 12

7. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 179

lived. The situation was worsened by the death of Madhoji Sindhia in 1794, when political issues regarding his succession and control of his extensive dominions came up. Taking advantage of this situation, the Sikhs launched an attack again and drove out the Maratha garrison from Saharanpur in 1795, causing commotion at Muzaffarnagar as well. The retreating Maratha forces sought refuge in the fort of Jalalabad, in tahsil Kairana, but were totally routed. At this stage George Thomas, the Irish soldier (formerly with Begum Sumroo), arrived with his contingent and rescued them from the Sikhs. In return for his services Thomas was appointed 'Warden of the Marches' and entrusted with the duty of safeguarding the Maratha dominions in the upper doab, including Muzaffarnagar. He was also granted a nominal jagir by his master Appu Khande Rao.

Conflict arose again as Begum Sumroo instigated a revolt in the Maratha ranks. Aided by many local chieftains, some of whom held possession in and around Muzaffarnagar, George Thomas retaliated. However, Sumroo declared a full-scale war against him with the support of Wellesley, and the region was disturbed¹.

Meanwhile Vaman Rao had succeeded Appu Khande Rao, the latter having committed suicide. He did not have smooth relations with Thomas who ultimately broke away from his camp². However, Thomas did not become a party to the league of treason against the Marathas at Shamli and Lakhnauti where he crushed the rebels with utmost severity.³ The revolts represented the general state of confusion prevailing throughout the Maratha confederacy in the doab at this period. In order to maintain peace in the north western possessions of the Marathas, Jaswant Rao Holker appointed Lakwa Dada as the agent in charge of the doab, who quelled a fresh outbreak in this tract, including the present district of Muzaffarnagar. Shambhu Nath, an agent of the governor of Saharanpur, who was also looking after the Bawani Mahal, summoned the Sikhs to help him in becoming independent, but he had to flee to the Punjab in 1800 after being defeated by a Mughal officer, Ashraf Beg, in the battle of Khatauli⁴. Perron assumed control of nearly all the Sikh jagirs with the exception of Jhinjhana, which was still held by Gurdatt Singh, and yielded a revenue of Rs 36,554 and other lands held by Bhag Singh and valued at Rs 57,986.

Kandhla was transferred from the Ladwa chief to Colonel Hessinga, who later on (in 1805) became the collector of Meerut. Shamli, assessed at Rs 38,000, was added to Chhapraul in the jagir of Shah Nizam-ud-din, a friend of the Marathas and also

1. Keene, *op. cit.*, pp. 234-235

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*, p. 245

4. *Ibid.*, p. 250; Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 181

the comptroller-general of the imperial household at Delhi. The holding was, however, resumed by Perron during the months of July-August, 1800, and included in Kairana and Bidauli in his personal estate¹.

The tract comprising the present district was transferred to the possession of the British East India Company on 30th December, 1803, soon after the treaty of Surji Arjun Gaon following the Second Anglo-Maratha War, according to which the districts of Saharanpur, Muzaffarnagar, Meerut, Bulandshahr, and Aligarh were ceded to the English by Daulat Rao Sindhia. The ceded districts were placed under an officer designated as secretary for the affairs of ceded and conquered districts, which were subsequently renamed as the North Western Provinces².

The British rulers carried out a series of periodical operations for settlement of the amount of revenue to be paid to them by the local estate-holders. They had a permanent settlement in view for the entire tract, Muzaffarnagar included, in the district of Saharanpur³, but it could not be effected for want of sanction from England.

Saharanpur, (then containing Muzaffarnagar) was occupied by Colonel Burn in 1804 when the Sikhs once again assumed a threatening attitude. To counter them, a party of British troops was despatched under Lieutenant Birch, with additional reinforcements being requisitioned from Delhi. In February 1804, Colonel James Skinner with a body of 800 troops crossed the Yamuna and surprised the Sikhs, making them surrender their claims in the region in March 1804. A major portion of the British garrison at Saharanpur was soon sent back to Delhi. This was also a sequel to a Sikh expedition in this tract in October 1804, under Sher Singh and Rai Singh. Little resistance was offered to them enroute. The collector of Saharanpur had to seek refuge in the old fort at Qila Ahmadabadi in that district, till rescued by Colonel Burn who had meanwhile proceeded from Delhi on 25th October, 1804. He was, however, overtaken by the Marathas near Kandhla. The Marathas, under Jaswant Rao Holker, had put Colonel Burn to great stress as is evinced from official records⁴.

Receiving practically no support from the local inhabitants, the British force was exposed to Maratha onslaughts. Ghasi Ram, the Jat zamindar of Shamli, played an important role as an ally of the Marathas, impeding supplies to the British force. The confrontation lasted till 3rd November, 1804, when the beleaguered garrison was relieved by Lord Lake, who caused the Marathas to retreat. The town of Shamli was burnt down by the British as a retaliatory measure. Holkar, on his retreat, found full public sympathy towards him even in such pockets as Thana Bhawan, in tahsil Kairana, where the populace had actively co-operated with

1. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 182

2. Dharam Bhanu, *op. cit.*, p. 81

3. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 187

4. Calcutta Review, L. XI. p. 53; Nevill, *op. cit.*, pp. 187, 188

him in the initial stages of the conflict. This encouraged him to continue his flight to Meerut.

The Sikhs in the meantime had penetrated as far deep as Shamli and Ghafurgarh, or Bahramgarh, in tahsil Budhana. Colonel Burn now advanced northwards, reaching Jaula in tahsil Budhana, on 20th November, 1804. He then proceeded towards Thana Bhawan, driving out Gurdatt Singh from there. The latter joined the Sikhs at Charaon, a place seven miles west of Deoband in Saharanpur. The Sikhs were defeated on 24th November, 1804. This, however, did not prevent them from carrying out another raid in this territory, capturing Thana Bhawan and Rampur in the present district. The attempts of Colonel Burn to penalise them failed as they fled across the Yamuna. By January 1805, however, many small bands of Sikhs were expelled from the district¹.

In January 1805, a conspiracy was hatched at Kandhla where several Qanungoi Banias were murdered by the Jats and the Gujars. The latter were reportedly instigated by the Marathas in collaboration with the Siddiqis, Sheikhs and the Raizadas who were a rival faction to the Qanungoi Banias. Enquiries made by the British authorities established the guilt of Langir Goshain, the *mahant* of Garh Goshain, a fort north of Rampur Kheri in the vicinity of Kandhla². Colonel Burn, on his arrival there on 22nd January, 1805, ordered the *mahant* to be hanged on the spot. By the middle of February 1805, news reached about the sudden appearance of Amir Khan, the Pindari leader, in the vicinity of this district. Colonel Burn hastily returned to Saharanpur via Thana Bhawan to meet the threat, but only a small body of the marauders crossed the Yamuna near Shukartal in this district, and retired soon after conducting minor forages³. The Sikhs continued to make efforts to regain their lost territories in this area for a long time. The officer in charge of Kairana reported on 10th March, 1805, the arrival of a body of 4,000 horsemen across the Yamuna, while Gurdatt Singh, the local chief of Jhijnjhana, and others also threatened Kairana. A body of nearly 2,000 Sikhs were reported in the vicinity of Shamli on 16th March. The British confiscated Gurdatt Singh's jagir of Jhijnjhana, alleging his collusion with the Sikhs⁴. Gurdatt Singh thereupon attacked Thana Bhawan on 17th March, but was repulsed by the Qazi of that place⁵. By a subsequent offer of amnesty received from Delhi, all but Gurdatt Singh were pardoned. The Sikhs appeared again in Miranpur on 7th April, 1805, while proceeding to Khatauli and therefrom to Meerut.

With the capture by the British of Gurdatt Singh's stronghold at Karnal in the Punjab, retaliatory steps were taken. Matters were settled as far as Sikh inroads into this tract were concerned.

1. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 189

2. *Ibid.*, p. 190

3. Nevill, H. R. : *Muzaffarnagar, A Gazetteer*, p. 190

4. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 191

5. *Ibid.*, p. 197

Still as a precautionary measure, the troops supplied by Begum Sumroo to the British were kept at Thana Bhawan, Meerut, and Sonapat. The Marhal jagirs in Muzaffarnagar and Bhag Singh's jagir in Bidauli were exchanged for lands on the west side of the Yamuna¹. Efforts aimed at restoring the ousted Saiyids to their former possessions were also made by the British.

An account dating back to 24th May, 1805, provided by Mr Guthrie, the then collector of Saharanpur, which included the area of the present district of Muzaffarnagar, gives an interesting description of the state of affairs during the first few years of the British rule. The collector at that time had to depend largely on the local landholders and zamindars for the maintenance of his authority. Naturally he was partial to the big landholders of the district, while the peasants were made to bear the burnt of collections in grain and money. The parganas of Muzaffarnagar, Charthawal, and Shoron were held by Muhamdi Khan, Mansur, and Ghairat Ali Khan as their *jaidad* or personal property, having supplied 200 horses to the ruling body, in this case the British. Similarly the parganas of Banat, Shamli, and Baghra were the *jaidad* of one Niabat Ali Khan. These rights were confirmed by Lord Lake². The large estateholders were the tributaries rather than subjects of the new rulers, viz., the British. The descendants of the Saiyids resorted to unlawful means for their subsistence, and the mud-forts built in 13th century A. D. became their shelter. These unlawful elements often harassed the people on the highways. The sub-collectorship of district Saharanpur was raised to the status of a district in 1826. The British enforced new measures for the maintenance of peace and for revenue administration, yet their sovereignty remained on the surface and could not capture the people's hearts. The undercurrent lay dormant for a few decades, whereafter it suddenly erupted, seizing the entire country in 1857 and shaking the very core of the British empire in India.

The historical accounts of the *sarv khaps* and Muzaffarnagar *khaps* during 1857 were recorded by the chroniclers Ganga Prasad Bhatt and Munshi Nazir Ahmad³. According to them propaganda against the British was started as early as 1855 under the guidance of the Maratha general, Nana Saheb Dhondu Pant, who was in touch with the stalwarts of the various *khaps* of this area. The leaders of the *khap* Baliyan which covered the district, viz., Hem Chandra, Saroj Mal, Ghasi Ram, and Sheo Singh (of Shoron); and Devi Shah Banuja (of Shamli), also joined in the cause⁴. These men visited villages and exhorted the people to lend support to the struggle against the British rule. The *khap* took a notable part in the subsequent risings against the British rule under the leadership of Nana Saheb, Begum Sumroo, and others. The outbreak at Meerut on 24th April, 1857, enveloped this district also. The news of the uprising in Meerut was communicated to Bedford, the then collector and magistrate of Muzaffarnagar, who

1. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 192

2. *Ibid.*, pp. 194, 195

3. Pradhan, M. C. : *Political System of the Jats of Northern India*, p. 107

4. *Ibid.*, p. 108

at that time was at Saharanpur. Hastening back to Muzaffarnagar, he issued orders for the closure of all public offices, which were not to reopen till the final tide of the revolt had been crushed¹. On the evening of 12th May, 1857, he was further informed by Butterfield, the jailor, about the intended revolt of the prison inmates against the British. In a state of panic and bewilderment, he abandoned his duties and fled through the jungle to Sarwat, a village where he spent the night².

This sort of nervous hysterics displayed by administrators could only inspire the people to act in a concerted manner, and on 13th May official residences were set on fire by the public, followed by large-scale destruction of British property. Besides there were disturbances in the city and the jail. The tahsil treasury was looted on 14th May, 1857. Being close to Meerut, and sensing the gravity of the situation, Bedford called Grant, the joint magistrate, to discuss plans to meet it, when they were informed of the collusion of the jail-guards with the freedom-fighters³. They decided to remove the district treasury, but the order to this effect was defied by the jail-guards, and the treasure-chests were broken open and Rs 85,000 plundered. This act convinced the people of the cessation of British authority. The spoliation of government treasury and the subsequent association of men of the 20th Native Infantry with the movement, put the British to great consternation. Those of them who had taken shelter at Shamli, thought in the wake of the popular tide, to shift elsewhere, viz., Jauli or Roorkee, but gave up the idea on receiving information about the disruption of the road in the neighbouring village of Pur Chhappar. They ultimately took shelter in Alipur Kheri⁴. The district at this stage had some 500 sepoys who could have offered resistance to the freedom-fighters, but they rather chose to join hands with the latter. By the end of May, 1857, Muzaffarnagar was in full control of the freedom-fighters the British authorities having been forced to flight. On 15th June, 1857, the government offices at the district headquarters were stormed and all records of sale and mortgage of property were destroyed. The Englishmen, seeking refuge in Saidan, now decided to move on to the tahsil with the jail-guards and sepoys. Subsequent to their departure, a raid was carried out on their property, including that of their allies. The government forces which were sent to crush the freedom-fighters, joined with them, thus defeating the objectives of the British. On 19th June, a party of the 3rd Light Cavalry arrived in the district from Meerut under the charge of an Indian officer. Its arrival caused consternation among the freedom-fighters because it was not clear whether the detachments were pro-government or supporters of their struggle. A trooper of this detachment shot a local trader on the day of his arrival over a personal dispute. Bedford did not dare order even an investigation, so precarious was his authority in the district at the time⁵.

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1. Majumdar, R. C. : *History of the Freedom Movement in India*, Vol. I, p. 172; Rizvi, S. A. A. : *Freedom Struggle in U.P.*, Vol. V, p. 75
 2. Majumdar, *op. cit.*, p. 172; Rizvi, *op. cit.*, p. 76
 3. Rizvi, *op. cit.*, p. 76; Majumdar, p. 172
 4. Rizvi, *op. cit.*, p. 80
 5. Rizvi, *op. cit.*, p. 82

The situation was further aggravated by the revolt of the troopers of the 4th Irregular Cavalry on 21st June, 1857, when they killed Smith, the lieutenant, and other officers in the course of the skirmish that followed. Raids were subsequently carried out on government offices and property at a number of other places in the district, where organisations of freedom-fighters continued to get support of the freedom-loving soldiers who had turned hostile to the British authorities.

Shamli attracted the fighters' attention where a number of Europeans had sought refuge. The 3rd Light Cavalry under Lt. Clarke arrived on 26th June, 1857, to rescue them, but it suffered heavy casualties at the hands of the people. It was only when a detachment of 130 Gurkhas of the Mussoorie battalion under Lt. Chester arrived, on 2nd July, 1857, that these officers including Bedford could be rescued out of the besieged town¹.

Towards the end of August 1857, a special *firman* was issued by the emperor, Bahadur Shah, to the people of this district, as preserved in the *sarv khap* records. He besought the people to defy the British authority by taking over the administration and dispensing justice through the *panchayats*. His emissaries propagated this message throughout the tract. The people of the district stopped paying revenue and resorted to violence when the officials attempted to realise it. The British authorities had only a small contingent of Gurkhas who, being far outnumbered by the nationalists, could hardly play an effective role in maintaining law and order². A large force of Muslims had collected in Thana Bhawan, the troopers comprising almost all classes of people, besides the Raizadas and the disgruntled Saiyids who called themselves 'Mujahids', since the Muslims regarded the struggle as a holy war against the English. They stormed the police stations and the tahsil headquarters, and started administering the area themselves. A large detachment was sent under Major Sawyer to quell this group of the fighters, but it met with only partial success. Meanwhile in September, the news that one Khairati Khan Pindari, a resident of village Parasauli, in tahsil Budhana, had gone to Delhi to obtain military aid from the Mughal emperor, hastened Grant, the joint magistrate, to leave with a body of troopers for Thana Bhawan. The latter suffered heavy losses in the encounter with Khairati Khan's men at Parasauli. The success of this event had its effect in many parts of the district. Khairati Khan's forces were further strengthened by volunteers from Jaula and the adjoining villages of Meerut. He then marched upto Budhana and after ousting the British captured the fort.

The Sikh cavalry, which had already been deployed in Muzafarnagar, was now called into save the beleaguered British troops. Palmer, then in charge of Miranpur, tahsil Jansath, was recalled and additional reinforcements from Meerut were requisitioned to save the town of Shamli, facing threat from the freedom-fighters.

1. *Ibid.*, p. 87

2. Rizvi, *op. cit.*, p. 127

After a fierce battle and heavy losses near Shamli, Khaicati Khan retired to Jaula¹. Government troops had to face unprecedented difficulties in gathering information, particularly about the movements of the freedom-fighters, whose influence was at its peak at this time in nearly the entire district. The Saiyids and Pathans of Saharanpur and Muzaffarnagar put up a joint front and took over Shamli, under the leadership of the religious heads of Deoband in Saharanpur, most eminent of whom was Hafiz Muhammad Jamin. A big section of the freedom-fighters assembled at village Hurhur in Thana Bhawan, where they assumed complete administrative control under the leadership of zamindar Gainda Singh, who had eluded capture by the British troops². The month of October also witnessed large-scale uprisings in places like Jhinhana, Budhana, Shamli, and Kandhala where British authority was at a low ebb³. This continued in most of the places till the end of the month, British successes being only of a sporadic character. Soon after three princes from the Delhi court also joined the patriots here. In January 1858, a large number of freedom-fighters under Dalail Singh raided the police-station at Miranpur, and overcome the British troops on 5th January, 1858⁴. The police-stations at Illahabas and Bhukaheri were also attacked.

Meanwhile, Major General Wilson was preparing for an attack on Marab Khan or Marah Khan who had been leading a section of the freedom-fighters in this district since December 1857. He ultimately defeated Khan on 21st April, 1858⁵. The defeat of Marah Khan was the beginning of a series of reverses for the freedom-fighters in this district till this first struggle for independence was finally subdued by the British.

Severest reprisals against the participants in this valiant struggle were not long in coming, and they were subjected to a prolonged series of hardships and humiliations in the wake of this defeat. The process of the restoration of the British power in the post-1858 period, again brought about a series of administrative measures, revenue settlements, improvements in the educational and medical fields, in addition to the consolidation of their hold in this district, as elsewhere in their domains. These events brought home the ideas of public life and social reforms to the people of the district, in keeping with the same spirit generated throughout the country. The emergence of the Indian National Congress of the Theosophical Society, and of other national organisations helped to usher in a new era of public awakening and interest in the affairs of the State, a process which continued unabated till the first half of the twentieth century.

With the appearance of Mahatma Gandhi on the political scene, the masses received a new impetus to their desire to attain independence. The country now had a leader who could unite all the communities under a single banner, giving the struggle for independence a national dimension.

1. Rizvi, *op. cit.*, p. 130, 131

2. *Ibid.*, p. 132

3. *Ibid.*, p. 134

4. *Ibid.*, p. 335

5. *Ibid.*, p. 151

The district of Muzaffarnagar, too, did not remain high and dry. On 6th April, 1919, a complete hartal was observed in Muzaffarnagar. At this time the foundation of a branch of the Indian National Congress was laid here. Ugra Sen and Babu Ram were elected its first president and secretary respectively. Meanwhile Gandhiji visited the district, creating immense enthusiasm among need for maintaining Hindu-Muslim unity¹. The first political conference in the district was held in 1920 in the wake of Mahatma Gandhiji's call for satyagraha, i.e. non-co-operation movement². The resolution calling for non-co-operation was passed with a huge majority vote. Some prominent leaders of the district in 1920 were Bishambhar Dayal, Vishnu Chandra, Ugra Sen, Babu Ram Garg, Badri Das, and Keshav Gupta. The conference was presided over by Sunder Lal of Khatauli, whose work entitled *Bharat Men Angrezi Rajya* was proscribed by the British government. It chalked out a programme in strict accordance with the principles laid down by Gandhiji. A National School was also opened at Muzaffarnagar in the same year.

A large number of students left their schools in 1921 and joined the National School. The khilafat movement was also gaining momentum here during this year, in which a local branch of the Muslim League was also founded at Muzaffarnagar by the nationalist leader Husain Ahmad Madni. The movement assumed a brisk pace by September 1921, and the subsequent arrest of the Ali brothers i.e. Mohammad Ali and Shauqat Ali, made Gandhiji declare in no uncertain terms that co-operation with the British government was against the national cause. The government too was not prepared to concede the demands of the Congress in anyway. Thus the struggle continued.

Punitive measures were adopted and by January 1922, large-scale arrests were made in this district. The momentum continued and the call for the *swadeshi* movement i. e. patronising only the indigenous products, resulted in a massive picketing of the shops selling foreign goods and liquor at a number of places in the district in February 1922.

At another political conference presided over by N. C. Kelkar on 23-24 February, 1922 emphasis was laid on co-ordination between the Congress, the khilafat, and the Swarajist parties, in addition to total boycott of foreign goods and collection of funds for the furtherance of the national movement. Five months later the nationalist leader, Dr M. A. Ansari, visited the district. He held a meeting in camera at Muzaffarnagar, attended by veteran Congress leaders of the district, and directed the volunteers to spread the message of satyagraha throughout the district and the neighbouring areas, protesting against the oppressive role of the government. In another conference of the Congress workers held at Muzaffarnagar in October 1922, the increase registered in Congress membership in the district was applauded. The need to contribute liberally to Lokmanya Balgangadhar Tilak's Swarajya

1. *Swatantrata Sangram Ke Sainik* (Hindi) (published by the Information Department U. P.), p. 'B'

2. District Congress Committee Records

Fund was also emphasised. Picketing of liquor shops particularly in Kairana, was popular. Nearly 2,000 persons volunteered for the satyagraha movement. Seven national schools in the district, including two for the untouchables, were also set up on the occasion. The president of the district Congress committee appealed for continuance of effort to further the Civil Disobedience movement. Appeals were also made for a non-violent satyagraha and for co-ordination with the khilafat movement. The postponement of the Civil Disobedience movement during the Chauri Chaura incident was regretted by most of the speakers.

Following closely on the heels of the Congress session, a conference of the local khilafat committee was held from 6th to 11th October, 1922, wherein emphasis was laid on close co-operation with the *swadeshi* and the Civil Disobedience movements.

A notable feature of the liberation movement was the increased participation of the womenfolk of the district. Muzaffarnagar was also the venue of the Third All India Congress session held on 27th October, 1922. It was attended by eminent delegates such as Sarojini Naidu, Madan Mohan Malaviya, Motilal Nehru, and Hari Bhaoji. Sunder Lal was the chairman of the reception committee. The need for close co-ordination between the Congress and the khilafat movements was again stressed. In the concluding session on 29th October, government agencies such as the police and the C. I. D. were exhorted to co-operate with the programme. An important achievement of the Congress in the district in this year lay in winning the municipal elections despite the government's assistance, direct and indirect, to the pro-government camp.

A local unit of the Gandhi Seva Sangh, an institution founded in 1923 by Jumna Lal Bajaj to further Gandhiji's programme, was established in 1924 at Muzaffarnagar by Ugra Sen. This organisation started several projects to encourage people's participation in it. At a large gathering at Charthawal near Muzaffarnagar in 1924, emphasis was laid on Hindu-Muslim harmony to counteract the British policy of divide-and-rule. The Jallianwala Bagh incidents were reviewed in the commemorial meetings held in the district, as all over the country, and at one such gathering in 1925, a call for higher sacrifices by the people was made. The approaching elections to the Council witnessed a large-scale renewal of political activity in the district.

During her visit to the district in 1926, Sarojini Naidu stressed the need for Hindu-Muslim amity, lack of which in the country, in her opinion, had earned the notorious remark from Lord Birkenhead that 'Indians were incapable of governing themselves'. The forthcoming elections occasioned the visit of several eminent leaders such as Motilal Nehru and Govind Ballabh Pant. The public gatherings in the district addressed by nationalist and khilafat leaders throughout the following year voiced a unanimous desire to oppose the British rule. The enthusiasm to join the Congress received an impetus by Gandhiji's visit in 1928. The Muzaffarnagar district political conference was held the same year, in which a new demand was also raised to end the zamindari system.

Public feeling assumed new dimensions with the outbreak of violent incidents in 1930 at a number of places in the district. The call for the breaking the Salt Law i.e. the Namak satyagraha was heartily received, the activity in the district being centred at the National School at Muzaffarnagar. Reprisals by the government were particularly noticeable in the village Malendi near Shamli, where a large number of people were arrested. The inhuman repression by Mohammad Aslam, the police-station officer of Shamli, came to be referred to as 'Aslamgardi', symbolising the state of terror unleashed by him¹. Large-scale arrests of volunteers followed at Jansath and Miranpur which, however, failed to check the tide of popular will.

The year 1931 witnessed, among other things, a campaign for non-payment of taxes and revenue in this district, as elsewhere in the State. Retaliations followed rapidly. The British government adopted strong measures to crush the movement, resulting in lathi charges and large-scale arrests in many places of the district during this and the next two years. The trend among the people continued to be markedly anti-government throughout the district during this period.

Yet another visit to the district on 18th July 1934 by Gandhiji resulted in a gathering of nearly 30,000 persons at Muzaffarnagar. Notwithstanding the ban on the Congress organisation, elections were held by the Khatauli tahsil Congress unit and the District Congress committee in August 1934. Later in October 1934, the 9th district political conference was held at Muzaffarnagar wherein the issue of Congress entry into the Legislative Council evoked mixed reaction. Political activity at this stage gathered a good momentum, as is evidenced by the fact that no fewer than twenty-four election meetings were held in Muzaffarnagar alone.

The Congress party received a thumping majority at the 1937 Assembly elections, the district returning two candidates—Keshava Gupta and Satyavati to the Assembly. The *dhwaja vandana* (flag salutation) ceremony of the Congress party was held on 1st January, 1937, at Muzaffarnagar, the attendance at which was fairly large in spite of government restrictions. Appeals at the function were also made by the nationalist Muslim leaders, Dr M. A. Ansari and Maulana Abdul Nasir to do away with separatist tendencies among Hindus and Muslims and the Muslim League was urged to continue its co-operation with the Congress. Yet another visit by Sarojini Naidu to Muzaffarnagar on 16th January, 1937, resulted in the greater participation of womenfolk in political activities. Undertaking a district-wide tour, she addressed as many as six meetings at Muzaffarnagar, Charthawal, Titwari, Khandhla, and Kairana, attended by approximately 25,000 persons in all.

The 10th district political conference was held at Muzaffarnagar on 23rd December, 1939, under the presidentship of Purshottam Das Tandon who appealed to the audience to suspend

1. *Swatantrata Sangram Ke Sainik*—(Hindi) (published by the Information Department, U.P.)—Preface

all aid to the British government, which was involved in the Second World War at that time. Hectic activity was witnessed in 1940, on the visit of Jawaharlal Nehru in January, and on that of Muhammad Ali Jinnah which followed in March. Subsequently, the district was also visited by Subhash Chandra Bose, who exhorted the people to continue the freedom struggle by all means, violent or non-violent. His appeal had such a magical effect that a large number of people became active supporters of his Forward Block. This led to numerous arrests during the next few months.

The theatre of war had, meanwhile, extended beyond Europe, rendering the British position further precarious. The Civil Disobedience Movement was resumed by the Congress and lists of satyagrahis were prepared by the Muzaffarnagar Congress Committee as well. The arrival of the Cripps Mission to India in 1942, and its subsequent failure, again brought about a wave of arrests in the district as elsewhere in the country, a trend which was to continue with growing proportions during the next few years.

The determination of the people of Muzaffarnagar to keep up the freedom struggle still remained as strong as ever—a fact amply illustrated by the popular response, in terms of donations made, to a call of Shah Nawaz Khan in 1946 for the cause of the Azad Hind Fauj or the I. N. A. of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

The long-fought freedom struggle at last succeeded in driving out the British on the mid-night of August 14-15, 1947, which is a red-letter day in the history of the nation. On this auspicious day the long-cherished dream of millions of Indians came true, the sacrifices, tribulations, and martyrdom of the brave sons and daughters of the nation bore fruit, the long journey to freedom ended, and the motherland gained Independence. The leash that had held it under bondage was finally snapped. This district, which had also made immense sacrifices at the altar of freedom, proudly participated in the jubilations that marked the end of long dark night of slavery. The day has become a National Day ever since then and is celebrated with great reverence and enthusiasm in every nook and corner of the country.

CHAPTER III

PEOPLE

The rate of growth of the population of this district corresponds with the country's trend, which is characterised by a steady increase in every decade. The earliest census of the district, which was taken in 1847, has recorded 5,37,594 persons, which gave a density of 333 per sq. mile. Then the ten towns having a population of more than 5,000 were Kairana, Thana Bhawan, Shamli, Jalalabad, Muzaffarnagar, Kandhla, Jhijnjhana, Budhana, Jansath and Charthawal. In 1852, the density increased to 409 per sq. mile, the total population being 6,72,861. In a rather more accurate census of 1864, the total population was 6,82,212 with 414 density and 1,041 villages. The low increase may have been due to the famine of 1860. In the 1872 and 1881 census, the density was 419 and 457.9 respectively, with two more towns of Purqazi and Sisauli being added to the previous ten. The phenomenal increase in the population may be ascribed to successive prosperous years. By 1891, the total population of the district had become 7,72,874, giving a density of 466 persons per sq. mile.

The census of 1901 recorded the notable increase in population, raising the total of the district to 8,75,777, the density coming to 531.3 per sq. mile. During the decade 1891-1901, the district had a period of unprecedented prosperity, remaining unaffected by the drought of 1897. For this reason the population of every tahsil and pargana had increased.

The decennial growth as recorded in the subsequent census operations has been as follows:

Year	Persons	Decade variation	Percentage decade variation
1801	8,75,777	—	—
1811	9,07,257	—68,520	—7.82
1821	7,93,983	—13,274	—1.64
1831	8,94,662	+1,00,679	+12.68
1841	10,56,759	+1,62,097	+18.12
1851	12,21,768	+1,65,009	+15.61
1861	14,44,921	+2,23,153	+18.26
1871	18,02,289	+3,57,368	+24.73

Thus, except a successive decrease in the first two decades of the present century, which was due to heavy mortality caused by plague and malarial fever in the first decade, and by malaria and influenza epidemics in the second, the population of the district has been showing a steady rise of over fifteen per cent.

According to the 1971 census, the population of the district was 18,02,289 persons (9,84,495 males and 8,17,794 females), of which 86.14 per cent belonged to the rural areas. The rate of growth during the decade 1961-71 was higher than the State average of 19.8 per cent, and the district occupied the 19th position in the State. The density of population is greater because of better soil fertility.

The total area of the district, according to the central statistical organization, was 4,245 sq. km. on July 1, 1971, ranking the district 44th in area in the State.

In 1971, the density of population of the district was 425 per sq. km., as compared to 300 per sq. km., of the State. The tahsilwise density was 498 for Muzaffarnagar, 489 for Budhana, 417 for Kairana, and 330 for Jansath. The density in rural areas was 368 per sq. km. against 483 in the urban. The highest density in the rural areas (466) was in Budhana tahsil, and the highest in the urban areas (10,133) in Kairana tahsil.

The density of the district has increased largely since 1901. The maximum increase took place during 1961-71 as would be seen below :

Year	Density per sq. km.		
	Of the district	In rural areas	In urban areas
1901	204	N.A.	N.A.
1911	188	N.A.	N.A.
1921	185	N.A.	N.A.
1931	208	181	N.A.
1941	245	218	876
1951	288	254	1,028
1961	335	293	6,618
1971	425	368	8,483

The sex-ratio position of the district, at the census of 1971, was found to be 831 females per 1,000 males, which was considerably lower than the State average of 879. The sex-ratio in the rural and urban areas of the district was 828 and 846 females per

1,000 males respectively. In 1961, it was 845 and 812 females per 1,000 males in the rural and urban areas respectively. In 1971, tahsilwise, these figures were 836 for Kairana, 825 for Muzaffarnagar, 835 for Budhana, and 827 for Jansath. The corresponding figures at the census of 1961 were, 862, 832, 848, and 839 respectively. The sex-ratio figures between 1901 and 1971, with the number of males and females, are given below :

Year	Males	Females	Number of females per 1,000 males
1901	4,68,456	4,07,321	869
1911	4,44,217	3,63,040	817
1921	4,34,142	3,59,841	829
1931	4,89,306	4,05,356	828
1941	5,78,973	4,77,786	825
1951	6,69,361	5,52,407	825
1961	7,85,031	6,59,890	841
1971	9,84,495	8,17,794	831

In 1971, as per census records, the district contained 927 inhabited villages and 7 towns, against 928 and 7 respectively in 1961, while in 1951 the number of towns in the district was 15. This was caused by the exclusion of the eight town areas of Thana Bhawan, Charthawal, Purqazi, Sisauli, Jalalabad, Budhana, Jhinjhana, and Shahpur from the census list of towns, as they did not fulfil the requisite conditions. The following statement gives information for the period between 1901 and 1971 :

Year	Inhabited villages	Towns
1901	913	15
1911	929	15
1921	917	14
1931	909	14
1941	897	15
1951	915	15
1961	928	7
1971	927	7

Population by Tahsils

According to the census of 1971, the district was divided into four tahsils, namely, Kairana, Muzaffarnagar, Budhana, and Jansath. The tahsils included 927 inhabited villages, 160

uninhabited villages and 7 towns, of which Muzaffarnagar, Kairana, Kandhla, Khatauli, and Shamli were municipalities, and Miranpur and Jansath were town areas. The tahsilwise break-up of population is given below :

Tahsil	Villages			Population		
	Inhabited	uninhabited	Towns	Persons	Males	Females
Kairana						
Rural	244	30	—	4,07,411	2,21,884	1,85,527
Urban	—	—	2	69,312	37,702	31,610
Total	244	30	2	4,76,723	2,59,586	2,17,137
Muzaffarnagar						
Rural	286	39	—	4,40,644	2,42,040	1,98,604
Urban	—	—	1	1,14,783	62,294	52,489
Total	286	39	1	5,55,427	3,04,334	2,51,093
Budhana						
Rural	149	19	—	3,43,042	1,87,057	1,55,985
Urban	—	—	1	20,061	10,766	9,295
Total	149	19	1	3,63,103	1,97,823	1,65,280
Jansath						
Rural	248	72	—	3,61,377	1,98,205	1,63,172
Urban	—	—	3	45,659	24,547	21,112
Total	248	72	3	4,07,036	2,22,752	1,84,284
Grand Total	927	160	7	18,02,289	9,84,495	8,17,794

Muzaffarnagar is the most populous tahsil in the district, having 31.2 per cent of the total population, of which 24.4 per cent lives in the rural areas and 6.3 per cent resides in the town of Muzaffarnagar. The population of Kairana tahsil is 26.1 per cent of the total, with 22.5 per cent in rural and 3.8 per cent in urban areas. The tahsil of Jansath has 22.5 per cent of the total population, of which 22 per cent live in rural, and 2.5 per cent in urban, areas. The Budhana tahsil comprises 20.1 per cent of the district's population, 19 per cent being in rural, and 1.1 per cent in urban, areas.

The tahsilwise area and population of the district according to the censuses of 1961 and 1971 are given in Statement I at the end of the Chapter.

Immigration and Emigration

In 1901, according to census, 83.7 per cent of the inhabitants were born within the district and the remaining 16.3 per cent were immigrants. In 1951, this ratio became 89.2 and 10.8, having 8.3 per cent born in other districts of the State, 1.3 per cent in other parts of India, and 1.2 per cent abroad. In 1961, however, the percentage of immigrants rose to 13.5, of which 1.0 per cent were born in other countries. Of the immigrants who came from territories beyond India, 13,550 were from Pakistan, 113 from Nepal, 28 from Burma, 6 from the United States of America, 3 each from China and South Africa, 2 from Afghanistan, and 1,173 from other countries.

The figures of emigration from the district are not available, but a sizable number of Muslims had migrated to Pakistan as a result of the partition of the country in 1947. Some people also left the district for purposes of education, service, trade or business, or on account of marriage, etc.

The tendency of the population to drift from rural to urban areas is not generally noticeable in the district. Only a small percentage of the educated among the rural inhabitants temporarily settled in towns for reasons of employment or education of their children. Because of agricultural engagement all the year round, villagers are not prone to migrate to cities. The agricultural labourers also get employment in rural areas almost throughout the year. The small percentage of rural population working on daily wages in cities generally return home in the evening. The number of labourers who have settled down in the urban areas is very small. There is hardly any movement of the urban population to the villages.

Displaced Persons

Between 1947 and 1950, as per census records of 1951, about 15,126 (males 8,031, females 7,095) displaced persons, particularly Hindus, Sikhs, and Jains had migrated to this district, mostly from Pakistan. About 11,545 persons came in 1947, 3,031 in 1948, and only 51 and 38 in 1949 and 1950 respectively. The year of arrival could not be ascertained in the case of 389 displaced persons. Most of them had settled in the urban areas of the district.

At the census of 1961, about one per cent of the total population consisted of displaced persons, mostly from Pakistan.

The displaced persons were rehabilitated by the government in agriculture, services, trade, and industry by being given all possible assistance, viz., loans and advances, licences for the sale of certain controlled items, allotment of agricultural land or plots for shops or residential purpose at nominal costs. The wholesale cloth business has specially been captured by immigrants from Pakistan. Some especially the Sikhs, are big farmers. They are now all properly settled and assimilated in the district population.

Distribution of Population

The distribution of the population age-group-wise according to the census of 1971, is as follows :

Age-group	District Population				Rural Population				Urban Population			
	Persons		Males		Females		Persons		Males		Persons	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
0-14	8,05,060	4,35,135	3,69,927	6,94,199	3,77,708	3,16,491	1,10,861	57,425	53,436			
15-19	1,53,967	85,156	68,811	1,31,027	72,502	58,525	22,940	12,654	10,286			
20-24	1,30,086	67,510	62,576	1,09,634	55,785	53,899	20,402	11,725	8,677			
25-29	1,18,091	62,751	55,340	1,01,396	53,607	48,239	16,195	9,144	7,051			
30-39	2,07,390	1,09,324	98,566	1,81,023	94,449	86,579	26,862	14,875	11,987			
40-49	1,60,359	89,175	71,384	1,39,940	77,157	62,783	20,619	12,018	8,601			
50-59	1,09,634	64,814	44,820	94,324	55,647	38,677	15,310	9,167	6,413			
60 and above	1,16,933	70,583	46,350	1,00,307	62,282	38,025	16,626	8,301	8,325			
Age not stated	69	49	20	69	49	20	—	—	—			
Total	19,02,289	9,84,495	8,17,794	15,52,474	8,49,186	7,03,288	2,49,815	1,35,309	1,14,506			

In 1971 the maximum number of persons, viz., 44.6 per cent was in the age-group of 0 (infants) to 14 years followed by 11.5 per cent in the age-group of 30-39. Curiously, the same percentage obtained in the rural and urban sectors of the district.

The distribution of rural population among villages of different size, according to census of 1971, is given below :

Range of population	Number of villages	Persons	Males	Females	Percentage of rural population
Less than 200	82	7,741	4,398	3,343	0.49
200-499	111	39,230	21,536	17,694	2.53
500-999	222	1,68,172	91,589	76,583	10.83
1,000-1,999	269	3,94,575	2,15,615	1,78,960	25.41
2,000-4,999	196	5,97,414	3,27,382	2,70,032	38.48
5,000-9,999	40	2,65,823	1,45,541	1,20,282	17.13
10,000 and above	7	79,519	43,125	36,394	5.13
Total	927	15,52,474	8,49,186	7,03,288	100.00

In 1971 nearly 86.13 per cent of the total population lived in 927 inhabited villages. The average population per inhabited village had increased to 1,674 persons, as against 1,351 of 1961. There were 193 inhabited villages with a population below 500 in each. Medium-size villages, with a population between 500 and 2,000, numbered 491. The remaining 243 villages were the larger ones, having more than 2,000 inhabitants.

In 1971, the urban population of 2,49,815, including 1,35,309 males and 1,14,506 females, comprised 13.87 per cent of the total and was distributed over seven towns. The Muzaffarnagar municipality was a class I town having a population of above 1,00,000. Kairana, Kandhla, Khatauli, and Shamli were classified as class III municipal towns, having a population between 20,000 and 49,999. Miranpur and Jansath town areas were placed in the category of IV and V class towns having populations ranging between 10,000 and 19,999, and 5,000 and 9,999 respectively. The following statement shows the actual population of the seven towns :

Name of towns	Persons	Males	Females
Muzaffarnagar	1,14,783	62,294	52,489
Kairana	32,353	17,270	15,083
Kandhla	20,061	10,766	6,295
Khatauli	24,495	13,144	11,351
Shamli	36,959	20,432	16,527
Miranpur	12,962	6,993	5,969
Jansath	8,202	4,410	3,792
Total	2,49,815	1,35,309	1,14,506

The municipality of Muzaffarnagar was the most populous among the towns of the district, having about 45.94 per cent of the total urban population.

Language

Hindi was the most common language adopted by nearly 79.9 per cent of the people, followed by Urdu spoken by about 19.7 per cent. Punjabi and Gurmukhi having difference only in script, were being used by about 0.24 per cent of the total population.

The form of Hindi spoken in the district is *Khari-boli* or western Hindi. It is the official language of the State, being also given the status of the national language. Kauravi is another name assigned to it, probably after the ancient Kaurava rulers. The language gradually evolved from Sanskrit via Prakrit and Apabhramsha, spoken in these parts in the ancient and pre-medieval periods. Words and forms from Braj Bhasha, Punjabi, Rajasthani, Urdu, Persian, and even English, have crept into the *Khari-boli*. The district has many bilingualists, with Hindi generally as one of the languages. Different languages and dialects spoken in the district are mentioned in Statement II at the end of the Chapter.

Script

Devanagari script is used for Hindi and its different forms, while that for Urdu is Persian. Other languages follow their own scripts.

Principal Communities

There are two principal communities, the Hindu and the Muslims. The Hindus are as usual divided into four branches, viz., Brahmana, Kshatriya, Vaish, and Shudra and their numerous sub-castes. There are several other groups which have also acquired the status of independent castes, such as the Jat, the Gujar, etc., which also have their own subgroups. The Hindu society comprises

a number of groups with distinct names bearing different caste names, but as separate figures for castes and subcastes were not taken into account after the census of 1931, it is not possible to form any idea of their numerical strength in the district.

The Tyagis or Tagas, who claim to be a branch of the Brahmanas, are said to be some of the earliest colonists of the district and were subsequently displaced by the Jats and the Gujars, mostly in the western and southern parts of the district. Many of them embraced Islam in the reign of Aurangzeb. Their important branches found here are the Bachas or Pachauliyan, whose settlement called Bahira, originally consisted of twelve villages in eastern Shikarpur in Budhana tahsil. The Bikwan Tagas, who are said to have come to the district from Bikaner, are mainly confined to Pur Chhapar. The Gandran Tagas are residing in Budhana, the Nimdan and Bhardwar in Charthawal, and the Rasdan Tagas in Thana Bhawan. The Tagas are mainly cultivators, only some being in government service.

Among the Kshatriyas the Pundirs were the first to arrive in the district. The Chauhan Rajputs, though scattered all over the district, chiefly reside in tahsil Kairana, where their colony consisted of 24 villages called *chaubisi*. They, too, are generally engaged in agriculture.

Most of the Vaishs of the district belong to Agarwal sub-caste. Others are Barasenis and Maheshwaries. The Vaishs of Pur Chhapar have been the leading landholders of the district. The chief occupations of the Vaish community are money-lending, trade, and business.

The Jats occupy the most dominant position among the Hindus of the district and are next to the Chamars (Jatavas) in number. They are generally tall and well-built. Their women-folk, too, are of strong physique. All of them are said to have migrated to this district from the States of Punjab and Haryana, which they claim as their original home. Their important sub-castes are the Ghatwalas who held a *chaurasi*, i.e. a group of 84 villages in the west of the district, and the Balian with headquarters at Sisauli and Purbalian. There are also some Salik-lans in the district.

According to oral accounts in verse called *sakha*, a branch of Kashyapa *gotra* Jats migrated to this district from Gurgaon district of Haryana in the second half of the twelfth century, and settled at Sisauli which is now the hereditary seat of the Chaudhris. From there they spread to the neighbouring areas comprising the *khap* Balian.

Territorial expansion, conquest, and colonization of the present *khap* area continued for another 300 years till the first quarter of the sixteenth century, when the chaos prevailing in the region was overcome by the Mughal rules.

An important social feature of the Jats is their tribal organisation, said to be based on the feeling of brotherhood and covering a group of 32 villages of this district. The villages in which a clan is settled are constituted into a clan council, and the area under councils jurisdiction is called *khap*. Each clan has a hereditary headman called Chaudhri, but some of the Jat clans also have a hereditary post of secretary, called vizir. The Chaudhri or vizir is also the headman of the *khap* council and looks after the affairs of the council. A *khap* may comprise 12 to 84 villages. The council of the village was called the *khap* panchayat. The *khap* panchayat maintained its own militia for administration, conquest, and defence. An important *khap* of the district is Shoron in tahsil Budhana, about 21 km. from Muzaffarnagar city. It was originally inhabited by Siyani, Bisnoi, Chamar, and other Hindu castes. During the reign of the Mamluk Sultans of Delhi, Shoron became a stronghold of the Muslims. The Jats of Sisauli raided Shoron three times but failed to conquer it. Finally, it was conquered in 1305 A.D. by a Baliyan *khap* leader, Ram Rao Rana, and the Muslims were driven out.

The Jats, who are among the best cultivators, set the fashion of agriculture in this district which is generally followed by other agriculturists. They put in hard labour in cultivation. Their womenfolk also work shoulder to shoulder with the menfolk in the fields. Their living is very austere and unostentatious.

The Gujars also are an agriculturist class, giving more stress on cattle-rearing. They claim a Rajput origin, their largest clan being Kalsian, inhabiting *chaurasi* near the Yamuna on the west. They also inhabit the villages near the ravines overlooking the Ganga *khadir*, and the greater part of *khadir* pargana of Gordhanpur. In the second half of the eighteenth century, during the rule of the Gujar chief, Raja Ramdayal Singh of Landhaura in Saharanpur district, they were the leading landholders of the district. They are traditionally very good cattle-rearers and supply a fairly large proportion of milk to the adjoining areas of Meerut and Delhi.

The Kahars are in a fairly large number in this district, most of them residing in Kairana tahsil. The greater bulk of them belong to the Mahar subdivision, the other being the Dhinwars. In cities, Kahar women are employed as domestic servants for washing and cleaning utensils, etc. But most of the Kahars are agricultural labourers while some have also acquired agricultural lands. A few grow *singharas* and do fishing.

The Malis, also known as Baghbans, and the Sainis are practically indentical castes. They are numerous in the district and most of them reside in Jansath and Kairana tahsils, their important subcaste being the Bhagirathi. They are mainly agriculturists and specialize in growing vegetables and garden crops.

The occupational groups, like the Barhai (carpenter), Bharbhuja (grain-parcher) Chhipi (cotton-printer), Darzi (tailor), Kori or Orh (weaver), Kumhar (potter), Lohar (blacksmith), Nai (barber), and Sonar (goldsmith) are included among the Other Backward Classes.

About twenty subdivisions of Scheduled Castes reside in the district. In 1971, they numbered 2,98,036, with 1,63,302 males and 1,34,302 females, forming about 23.5 per cent of the Hindus, and 16.54 per cent of the total district population. About 92.3 per cent of them live in rural areas. The Chamars, also called Jatavas, Jhusias or Dhusias, are the largest in number not only among the Scheduled Castes but also among the Hindus. They numbered 2,01,954 in 1971 and are evenly distributed all over the district, and head the list in every tahsil except Budhana. Most of them have now abandoned their traditional cobbler's job and taken to agriculture, chiefly as labourers. Next in number are the Balmikis or Bhangis or Khakrobs, who generally work as sweepers and scavengers. In 1971 they numbered 48,539. They were followed by Dharkar (8,506), Dhanuk (7,984), Khatik (7,652), Dhobi (6,751), Dangar (3,820), Bawaria (2,512), Kalabaz (2,068), Shilpkar (1,479), Nat (1,289), Badi (674), Sansiya (589), Bangali (584), Badhik (453), Pasi or Tarmeli (358), Hari (308), Gual (196), Dom (187), Parahiya (94), Karwal (60), Balahar (30), Bhuiyar (17), Agariya (10), Beriya (3), Kol (1), and Dusadh (1). The unspecified Scheduled Castes numbered 1,913 persons.

In 1971, the district had 1,545 persons belonging to the Scheduled Tribes, 860 being males and 685 females. They are mainly confined to Jansath and Muzaffarnagar tahsils.

The tahsilwise distribution of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population in the district in 1971 was as below :

District/Tahsil	Scheduled Castes			Scheduled Tribes		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
District						
Rural	2,75,115	1,50,690	1,24,425	1,012	564	448
Urban	22,921	12,612	10,309	533	296	237
Total	2,98,036	1,63,302	1,34,734	1,545	860	685
Kairana						
Rural	64,020	34,677	29,343	—	—	—
Urban	6,865	3,735	3,080	3	3	—
Total	70,885	38,462	32,423	3	3	—
Muzaffarnagar						
Rural	92,090	50,628	41,452	75	42	33
Urban	9,371	5,151	4,220	502	275	227
Total	1,01,461	55,779	45,682	577	317	260
Budhana						
Rural	41,856	22,790	19,066	60	38	22
Urban	1,993	1,101	892	—	—	—
Total	43,849	23,891	19,958	60	38	22
Jansath						
Rural	77,149	42,595	34,554	877	484	393
Urban	4,692	2,575	2,117	28	18	10
Total	81,841	45,170	36,671	905	502	403

Gandhiji named the members of the Scheduled Castes as Harijans. Institutions such as Arya Samaj started the formation of a casteless Hindu society. After the attainment of independence and the adoption of the Constitution of India, the disintegration of caste-system has been accelerated. For the social reformation and amelioration of the condition of the Scheduled Castes, several legislative measures have been taken and enforced vigorously. The Harijan welfare department of the State is endeavouring to improve the social and economic condition of the Harijans. In government services a quota of 18 per cent has been fixed for them.

Muslims—In 1971, there were 5,19,568 Muslims in the district, 2,83,810 being men and 2,35,758 women, constituting about 15.48 per cent of the total population, and 27.7 and 35.5 per cent of the rural and urban populations respectively.

Most of the Muslims are Sunnis, only a few thousand being Shias. They have many subdivisions in the district, the most important of which are the Saiyids, commonly known as Baraha Saiyids. These belong mainly to the Zaidi and Hussaini subdivisions, and held twelve (*barah*) villages in the district. Like the Saiyids of Bilgram in Hardoi district, they trace their origin to Saiyid Abul Farah of Wasit near Baghdad who visited India in 1217. According to tradition, his four sons eventually became heads of the four main branches of the Saiyids in the district. The first, Saiyid Daud, settled in Tihanpur, his branch taking the name Tihanpuri from this village. Saiyid Abul Fazl settled in Chhatraur after which his descendants are called Chhatrauri Saiyids. The third, Saiyid Abul Fazail, occupied Kundli, and his branch became Kundliwals. The fourth, Saiyid Najm-ud-din Husain, settled in Jagner in pargana Bidauli, giving rise to the Jagneri or Jhajari Saiyids. The original villages associated with them are now insignificant places.

Most of the earliest Saiyid settlements fell in the sandy tract of the old Sambalhera pargana or its immediate neighbourhood. It was only later that the Saiyids obtained a footing in the richer regions of the district. Tradition has it that their earlier acquisitions emanated from the goodwill of the Hindu owners who were under various obligations of the Saiyids, rather than to their influence in the imperial court at Delhi.

Throughout the reign of Akbar and his immediate successors, the Baraha Saiyids took a leading part in almost every important campaign and were distinguished for their prowess. They reached the pinnacle of their influence in the eighteenth century.

The Julahas, that is weavers, from the largest subdivision of the Muslims in the district. They reside mostly in Jansath and Muzaffarnagar tahsils and are engaged chiefly in weaving. Some are also cultivators.

The Shaikhs, called Shaikzadas, are largely concentrated in Pur, Kandhla, and Thana Bhawan. They are also known as Siddiqis and Quraishis. During the Muslim rule, colonies of Shaikhs were

settled at Purgazi and other places in the west of the district. At the outbreak of the freedom struggle of 1857-58, the Shaikhs of Thana Bhawan, under Shaikh Qazi, rose against the British and stormed the Shamli tahsil. As a result they lost their estates in this area.

The Pathans reside chiefly in pargana Thana Bhawan, where they previously owned a considerable area of rent-free land. They are said to have been settled in the district by Aurangzeb to keep the turbulent Rajputs in order. The Yusufzai, Kakar, and Afridi are their main subdivisions. Their possessions expanded considerably. Jalalabad is said to have been conferred on them by the Mughal emperor, Mohammad Shah, in reward for a gallant attack on Nadir Shah's army when it was marching on Delhi in 1739.

The few Turkaman Mughals in the district are confined to Budhana tahsil. The occupational Muslim subdivisions, are Telis (dealers in oil), Qassabs (butchers), Dhobis (washermen), Lohars (blacksmiths), *darzis* (tailors), Jhojhas, Faqirs, Garas, Bhishtis, Hajjams, and Barhais.

Sikhs—In 1971, there were 4,698 Sikhs in the district, of whom 2,560 were males and 2,138 females. They numbered 2,938 in the rural areas and 1,760 in the urban areas. Their population in 1901 consisted of only 380 persons. Their number increased as a result of the influx of displaced persons from Punjab following the partition of the country.

Jains—In 1971 there were 12,151 Jains in the district, of whom 4,567 resided in the rural areas and the remaining 7,584 in the urban areas. In 1901 they numbered 10,150, which shows that their increase has been much less than even the proportional increase in the total population. Jains form one of the important classes of the mercantile community and are generally known as Saraugis. They are mostly educated and are engaged in banking, trade, and business. Their wealth is attested by the number of fine temples which they have built in almost every market-town of the district.

Christians—In 1971, there were 1,205 Christians (males 656 and females 549) and the majority of them, i.e. 1,015 reside in the urban areas. Most of them are Protestants, the rest being Roman Catholics.

Buddhists—The Buddhists numbered 615 in 1871, of whom 461 were residing in the rural areas and only 154 in urban areas.

Religion and Caste

The following table based on the 1971 census returns gives the numerical strength of various religions in the district :

Religion	Followers					
	Total		Males		Females	
	Persons	Males	Females	Rural	Urban	Urban
Hinduism	12,64,052	6,90,694	5,73,358	6,08,667	32,027	68,351
Islam	5,19,563	2,83,810	2,35,758	2,36,173	47,637	41,287
Sikhism	4,698	2,560	2,138	1,630	930	830
Christianity	1,205	656	549	110	546	469
Jainism	12,151	6,434	5,717	2,346	4,088	3,496
Buddhism	615	341	274	260	81	73
Total	18,02,289	9,84,495	8,17,794	8,49,186	7,02,288	1,14,506

In 1971, there were 70.14 per cent Hindus, 28.83 per cent Muslims, and the remaining 1.03 per cent included Sikhs, Jains, Christians, and Buddhists in the district. In respect of Muslim population, the district is sixth in the State. The rural parts have 17.8 per cent Hindus and 27.7 per cent Muslims, while the urban population has 60.1 per cent Hindus and 35.5 per cent Muslims.

Religious Beliefs and Practices

Hindus—Hinduism, as prevalent in the district, is a collection of diverse beliefs, doctrines, and practices ranging from polytheism to absolute monism and the identification of the *atman* (individual soul) with the *Paramatman* (divine essence). They believe in complete freedom of thought and action so far as religious beliefs and practices are concerned. This has naturally given rise to many philosophical schools and sects. The most unique feature of Hindu religious belief is transmigration of soul and rebirth after death according to one's actions in life. It includes the worship of a pantheon of gods in their various aspects, the chief being Siva, Durga, Laxmi, Narayan, Rama, Sita, Hanuman, and Krishna. Diverse superstitions regarding a holy dip in the Ganga and the Yamuna on special occasions such as Kartiki Purnima, Dasahra, etc., are also common in the district.

The Hindus of the district including Scheduled Castes are much devoted towards their professions and generally do not perform worship as a daily practice. But the orthodox Hindus, for the purpose of worship, visit temples morning and evening, say prayers, bow to the deity and a few offer *prasad*, coins, flowers, etc. On the occasion of important festivals like Nav Durga, Rama Navami, Janamastami, etc., the people observe fast and worship in their homes and temples. Discourses and recitations (*katha*) from religious books, like the *Gita*, *Srimad Bhagvata*, and *Ramayana*, and collective singing of devotional hymns (*kirtans*) are also sometimes arranged privately or publicly.

Besides the popular form of Hinduism, some people have faith in their favourite saints. One of the most favourite is Piyara Ji, whose principal shrine is at Ramdewa (a village in Saharanpur district). This saint is generally worshipped by the Gujars. The fair held in his honour falls on the sixth day of the dark fortnight of Chaitra. The saint's followers wear black necklaces at the time of worship. Goga Pir or Zahir Pir is another popular deity, who is worshipped by both Hindus and Muslims. Fairs in honour of this saint are held at Khatauli, Kairana, Thana Bhawan, and Muzaaffarnagar in the months of Sravana and Bhadra. Babu Kalu is yet another local saint held in great reverence, particularly by the Chamars, Kahars and Kumhars, etc.

Shukartal, an important pilgrim centre for Hindus is about 13 km. from Morna bus station in Jansath tahsil. It is believed to be the site where Parikshit (the grandson of Arjun), heard the sermon from *Srimad Bhagvata* delivered by Shuk Deva (an ancient sage). It is also the venue of a big fair held annually on Kartiki Purnima.

The Arya Samajists are monotheists, repudiating idol worship and rituals. Their members in the district do not worship in the temple and generally perform the *sandhya* both the times. Some of the staunch members of this sect also perform the *hawan*.

Muslims—The Muslims of the district believe, as elsewhere that there is one God i.e. Allah, and follow the principles laid down by their prophet Muhammad. Islam enjoins five duties upon its followers—the recitation of *kalma* (an expression of faith in God and the prophet Muhammad); the offering of *namaz* (prayers) five times a day, being known as *namaz* of Fazr, Zuhar, Azr, Magrib, and Ishra, preferably in a mosque (individually or in congregation); the observance of *roza* (fast) during the month of Ramadan; the hajj to Mecca, and giving of *zakat* (charity). Their holy book is the *Quran*, and one who memorises it is called *hafiz*.

The Muslims try to offer prayers (*namaz*) regularly, but are especially particular about it on Friday. On important festivals like Id-ul-Fitr and Id-uz-Zuha, most of the Muslims offer the *namaz* collectively at *Idgahs*. The sacrifice of animals is also a common feature on the occasion of Id-uz-Zuha. The district contains many mosques, but their number in Budhana tahsil is the highest. Many Muslims put faith in *pirs* (saints) and hold *urs*. The more popular of the *pirs* are Zahir Pir, Khwaja Sahib, and Baba Chand Khan. The Milad celebrations, to commemorate the birth of the prophet in the month of Rabi I, are also arranged here with great rejoicing, when the houses are illuminated and religious discourses highlighting the teaching of Islam are made. Some times sweets known as *tabarruk* (share) are also distributed.

Jains—The Jains believe in *tri-ratna* (three gems)—right faith, right knowledge, and right conduct, which are supposed to lead them to the path of *moksha* (liberation). According to their belief, the universe has had no beginning and will have no end, and no creator is necessary to explain the cosmic phenomena. They believe in the doctrine of ahimsa and the law of Karma, and worship in their temples the images of their *tirthankaras*, or Jinas. The village of Velena in Muzaffarnagar tahsil, about 6 km. from the Muzaffarnagar railway station, is their pilgrim centre. Besides this, there are numerous Jain temples in the district, distributed particularly in urban areas.

Sikhs—Sikhism is a monotheistic religion, disavowing idolatry. There is no caste distinction. This religion enjoins on its believers, the wearing of a *kanghi* (comb), a *kara* (iron bangle), a *kirpan* (dagger), and *kachha* (shorts) and prohibits the cutting of the *kesh* (hair). The *Granth Saheb* is the holy book of the Sikhs, who attend congregational prayers in the gurdwaras (place of their worship). They celebrate the birth anniversaries of their gurus, when the *Granth Saheb* is taken out in a procession. They also perform collective marriages in the gurdwaras. In summers they offer water and free sweet drink to all and sundry on certain occasions.

Christians—The Christians believe in one God. His only son Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, the resurrection of the dead, and in an everlasting life. The *Bible* is their holy book, and congregational prayers are offered in Churches or Chapels, particularly on Sundays. This practice also serves the purpose of a get-together. The Christian community in this district is mainly composed of Indian Christians who were at one time or other converted to this faith.

Buddhists—The Buddhists population in the district is too small, a bare 615 persons. They believe in the eight-fold middle path of righteousness based on *satya vishwas*, *satya vichar*, *satya bhasan*, *satya karma*, *satya nirvah*, *satya prayatna*, *satya dhyān*, and *satya bhas*, (right belief, right aspiration, right speech, right action, right living, right effort, right rebellion, and right capture). This path ends sorrow and leads to the attainment of peace, enlightenment, and salvation (Nirvana). In the avoidance of the two extremes i.e. those of a life of pleasure, and of a total denial of worldly enjoyments, lies the middle path. They worship in their temples and offer daily prayers at home.

Festivals and Fairs

Hindu—The series of Hindu festivals commence with Sitala Astami, which falls on the 8th day of the first fortnight of Chaitra, the first month of the Hindu calendar, when the goddess Sitala is worshipped. The 9th day of the bright half of that month is called Rama Navami, the birthday of Rama, and is celebrated with great enthusiasm. On the 15th day of the dark half of Jyāishtha falls Bargad Amavasya (Vat-Savitri). The Ganga or Jeth Dasahra, a bathing festival, is observed on the 10th day of the later half of that month. Naga Panchami falls on the 5th day of the bright half of Sravana, when the Nagas or serpent-gods are worshipped by offerings of milk, flowers, and rice. On Raksha Bandhan, on the 15th day of first half of the same month, *rakhis* (thread symbolising protection) are tied by sisters around the right wrist of their brothers and by the Brahmana priests on their patrons. The Janamastami is observed on the 8th day of the dark half of Bhādra to commemorate the birth anniversary of Lord Krishna. The Anant Chaturdasi, which falls on the 14th day of the later half of Bhādra, is celebrated in memory of Rishi Ananta. The 30th day of Āsvina is the Pitra Visarjan Amavasya which is devoted to the memory of the deceased kinsmen. The worship of Durga is continued for nine days during the bright half of Āsvina, known as Nava Ratri, and the 9th day of this is known as Durga-Navami. The following day is Dasahra or Vijaya Dasami, dedicated to the worship of the goddess Vijaya, also commemorating the victory of Rama over Ravana. Ramlila celebrations are held at different places in the district. The 4th day of the first half of Kārtika is called Karwa Chauth when married women keep fast for the well-being of their husbands. Dipavali or Divali falls on the last day of the dark half of Kārtika. Festivities start two days earlier with Dhan Teras, celebrated as the birthday of Dhanvantari the divine physician. On the main day of the festival every Hindu house is illuminated and the goddess Lakshmi is worshipped. The Govardhan Puja is performed on the next day of Divali when

ladies worship the replica of Goverdhan mountain (prepared of cowdung). On the 2nd day of the bright fortnight of Kartika, Chitrugupta-Puja or Dawait-Puja is performed to pay symbolic homage to Chitrugupta, said to be endowed with celestial powers for keeping accounts, and claimed by the Kayasthas as their patron deity. The same day Bhaiya Dweej is also celebrated, when ladies put the Roli mark (*tika*) on the forehead of their brothers. On the 8th of bright half of that month, the Gopastami is celebrated when the cow is worshipped. The 11th day of this fortnight of the same month is known as Dev-Uthan Ekadasi, considered auspicious for fixing the marriages and other social functions, which remain suspended for the preceding four months. A big bathing festival is observed on Kartiki Purnima, the full-moon day in the month of Kartika. People take a bath in the Ganga and the Yamuna and a big fair is held at Shukartal and Daranagar Ghat. The Sakat Chauth falls on the 4th day of the dark half of Magha, when the male children cut the figure of a goat made of til and their mothers keep fast. The Makar Sankranti, coincides with the transit of the sun from Dhanu (Sagittarius) to Makara (Capricorn) and is celebrated as a bathing festival. Vasanta Panchami, which falls on the 5th day of the later fortnight of Magha, is devoted to the worship of Saraswati, the goddess of learning. Sivaratri is celebrated in honour of Siva's wedding and falls on the 13th day of the dark half of Phalguna. A fast is observed and the temples of Siva are specially decorated. For the Arya Samajists Sivaratri is a memorable day, because Dayananda son of a devotee of Siva and the founder of this school got enlightenment on this night. They celebrate the week preceding this day as *Rishi-bodha-saptah*, and arrange discourses by learned scholars for the seven days. Holi is the concluding festival of the Vikrama era, occurring on the last day of Phalguna, when bonfires are lighted at the cross-roads at a fixed time to commemorate the annihilation of all illwill, mallice, and evil forces of the previous year represented by the demon-god's sister Holika. Ears of barley are roasted in fire as offering to the gods. An interesting feature of the festivities is the squirting of coloured water and rubbing of coloured powder (*abir* or *gulal*) in a frolicsome mood. People also visit the houses of relations and friends to greet and wish each other. The rural inhabitants sing *phag* with *dholak*, the folk-song of the season, before and after the day of festival.

About 35 Hindu religious fairs, big and small, are held annually in the district. Most of the festivals are accompanied with local fairs too. Of these as many as eight are bathing fairs, held at different places on the banks of the Ganga (three on the Kartiki Purnima, two on Jeth Dasahra, and one each on Titwai, Ghat Mela, and Devi Puja). Other fairs include four associated with Ramlila, about twenty-two in honour of different deities, and one Sivaratri fair. The Kartiki Purnima fair at Shukartal, in Jansath tahsil, is the biggest Hindu bathing fair of the district and attracts about a lakh persons, followed by the Devi-ka-Mela fairs held at Budhana city and Kuralsi village in Budhana tahsil (about 10 km. from Budhana bus station), the former being attended by about 50,000 persons. The Jyaishta Dasahra fair is held at Shamli,

Badauli Sayed (a village, about 2 km. from Kartu bus station) in Kairana tahsil, and at Shukartal and attracts large congregations. The Shravani fair, dedicated to the worship of a local deity, is held at Khatauli town and is attended by about 12,000 persons. The Chharyon-ka-mela, is celebrated in memory of the saint Goga Pir, in all the tahsils except Budhana, and is largely attended. Besides these fairs, a large number of inhabitants of this district go to Hardwar on foot with *kanwars* on their shoulders in the month of Sravana and Phalguna to offer worship to the Ganga and to bring its holy water for the worship of Lord Siva.

Muslims—Of the important Muslim festivals, Id-uz-Zuha (Bakrid) is celebrated on the 10th of the Month of Zilhijja, to commemorate the occasion when Ibrahim resolved to treat his son Ismail as an offering to mark the highest form of sacrificial spirit, which was blessed by God the merciful with no injury to Ismail but with a sheep's sanctification of the alter instead. The Muslims say their *namaz* (community prayers) in *Idgahs* and sacrifice sheep and goats. The first ten days of the month of Muharram are devoted to perpetuate the martyrdom of Imam Husain, the grandson of the prophet of Islam, and of his companions on the battle field of *karbala*, and are particularly observed in mourning by the Shias. On Ashra, the last of these ten days, which is the most important as Imam Husain was killed, on that day, *tazias* are taken out in processions for burial at *karbala*. Chelhum, on the 20th of Safar, falling on the 40th day from Ashra, usually marks the end of the period of mourning. On the 12th of the month of Rabi-al-awwal falls Barawafat, which marks the birthday of prophet Muhammad, when alms are distributed and discourses on his life and mission are held. Sab-e-barat, the 14th day of Shaban, is a festival of rejoicing marking the birth of the 12th Imam of the Shias. It is attended by display of fireworks, distribution of sweets, and *fatiha* prayers for the peace of the souls of the departed ones. Ramadan is the month of fasting, on the expiry of which, the festival of Id-ul-Fitr is celebrated (on 1st Shawal) by offering *namaz* in *Idgahs* and mosques, and exchanging gifts and greetings. A typical feature of this festival is the consumption of vermicelli or *sewain*.

Muslim fairs held in the district are generally *urs* celebrations of certain important *pirs* (Muslim saints) who flourished here at one time or other. On the 5th day of Shawal, 'Urs Garib' fair is celebrated at village Shoron, in Budhana tahsil, about 2 km. from Shahpur bus station, and is attended by about 20,000 persons. Others are *urs* of Khwaja Saheb in the months of November and December held at Kairana, Baba Chand Khan-ki-Roshni *urs* on Ramadan 25-26 at Barla near the bus station in Muzaffarnagar tahsil; Mela Nasir Ali on the 2nd Friday of Jyais-tha at Jansath; Mela Peer on Jyais-tha (Sunday) at Khand Rawale near the bus station in Budhana tahsil, and at Muzaffarnagar city on Jyais-tha *sukla* 12-15; and the *urs* of Mastan Shah in the month of Shawal at Khera Mastan at a distance of 2 km. from Karenda bus station in Budhana tahsil. The Muharram fairs are held at Kandhla in Budhana tahsil, and at Khanjahanpur at a distance of about 3 km. from Muzaffarnagar bus station in the month of Muharram.

Sikh—The important festivals of the Sikhs are the birthdays of Guru Nanak Deva and Guru Govind Singh, when processions are taken out, congregational prayers are held in gurdwaras, and extracts from the holy *Granth* are recited. Their other festivals are Baisakhi Purnima and Lohri. Local fairs are held at gurdwaras on each occasion.

Jain—They celebrate the birth and nirvana anniversaries of the last *tirthankara*, Mahavira, the former on the 13th day of the bright half of Chaitra and the latter on the Dipavali day. The Paryushan or the Dashalakshana-parva, during the last ten days of Bhadra, and the three Ashtanhikas, during the last days of Kartika, Phalguna and Asadha, are the periodical holy days when the devotees observe fasts and perform worship in the temples. Their important fair 'Jain Uchacho', dedicated to Lord Mahabira, is held at village Velena in Muzaffarnagar tahsil in the month of Bhadra, when they assemble for prayers and religious rites.

Christian—The important festivals of the Christians are Christmas, which falls on December 25, and celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ, Good Friday which commemorates his crucifixion, and Easter in memory of his resurrection. The New Year (1st day of January) is also celebrated by them.

Buddhist—The principal festival of the Buddhists is the Buddha Purnima, which falls on the last day of Vaisakha and marks the birthday of Buddha as well as his nirvana.

A list of fairs held in the district appears at the end of the Chapter in Statement III.

SOCIAL LIFE

Property and Inheritance

The inheritance and succession to property other than agricultural holdings, among the Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, and Buddhists are being regulated by the Hindu Succession Act, 1956. This Act confers equal rights of inheritance on daughters in paternal property along with their brothers. In actual practice, however, the law is often ignored and daughters are deprived of their inheritance, especially if there are one or more sons, by making wills in favour of sons. Prior to 1956 Succession was governed by the Hindu Law. The inheritance and succession to agricultural holdings, prior to 1952, were governed by the U. P. Tenancy Act, 1939, but after the passing of the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950, the devolution of agricultural holdings is made thereunder, ignoring the Hindu and Mohammadan laws in this respect. The Act further provides that all lineal male descendants without regard to propinquity or remoteness may inherit.

The joint family and coparcenery systems are still in existence to some extent, especially in the rural areas of the district, where the people do not generally want to get their holdings divided. But these systems are rapidly declining and under the influence of new social and economic forces. The pattern of family is

patriarchal, and the women are mostly dependent on their menfolk for maintenance and protection.

Marriage and Morals

The distribution of district population according to its marital status, as per census records of 1971, is given in the following statement :

Marital status	Persons	Males	Females
Unmarried	9,41,200	5,45,480	3,95,720
Married	7,80,499	3,96,760	3,83,739
Widowed	78,715	41,095	37,620
Divorced or separated	210	185	25
Unspecified status	1,665	975	690
Total	18,02,289	9,84,495	8,17,794

Thus the percentages of the unmarried, married, and widowed or divorced persons in the total district population were 52.2, 43.8, and 4.3 respectively. Since widowed females numbered 37,620, widow remarriage does not appear to be much popular. The number of married males and females, under 15 years of age, was 3,585 and 6,555 respectively.

Among the Hindus, marriage is a sacrament and is governed by the *Dharam-shastras* and, to some extent, by customs and traditions as well. Some variations in the performance of different rites may occur from caste to caste, or even from family to family within a caste, but ceremonies like *bhanwar* (or *saptpadi*, literally seven steps) and *kanyadan* (giving away the bride) are the essential and common ones. Inter-caste marriages are very rare and unpopular, but inter-subcaste marriages are now common in the district. After the enactment of the Hindu Marriages Act, 1955, certain customary restrictions like marriages between persons of the same *gotra*, have been done away with. This Act, however, makes polygamy illegal and invalidates the marriages between *sapindas* (an agnate within seven generations), and also fixes the marital age i.e., 18 years for the bridegroom and 15 years for the bride, but in the case of a bride below the age of 18 years the consent of the guardian is necessary. Monogamy is generally practised among all the Hindu communities of the district. Ordinarily, the burden of searching a suitable groom for the daughter falls on the parents. When such a match is completed, the betrothal ceremony (*rok*, *sikka*, *sagai* or *tilak*) is performed. On such occasions, presents and cash are sent by the bride's party. Then on a mutually appointed day, the *barat* (marriage procession) goes to the house of the bride. There the bridegroom and his party are given reception, and at the doorstep the women perform the *arta* (wave lamps) around the face of bridegroom, and thereafter in some cases, especially in towns, *jaymala* or *varmala* ceremony

(an exchange of garlands) takes place. The *barat* is then feasted and the bridegroom is taken to the *Mandap* (Marriage pavilion), where the rituals like *kanyadan* (giving away the girl by the parents), *Sindurdan*, *gathbandhan* (tying up the nuptial knots), *bhanwar* or *saptadi* (going around the sacred fire for seven times), etc., are performed by Pandits (priests) with the help of the bride's parents. After the completion of all the ceremonies, the bridegroom with the bride and his party takes leave (*vida*) and returns to his house. Generally at the bridegroom's residence a *Bahu-bhoj* is given in reception of the newly-wedded couple. Among the Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes, marriage is also considered as a sacred rite, but it is performed in a very simple manner. A declaration before the caste panchayat by the bride to accept a bridegroom, or the reciting of *kathas*, or the tying of one end of the bride's garment to the bridegroom's, or the applying of vermillion on the former's head by latter are enough to complete the alliance.

The Jats, until recently, often practised polygamy. Several Jats of the earlier generation used to have more than one wife, but among the younger generation the tendency is towards monogamy, which might be the result of the Hindu Marriage Act. Four types of marriages were in vogue among the Jats. First is the marriage proper, in which the father or head of a girl's family searches a suitable boy and settles the engagement. The engagement ceremony is completed by the father of the girl by offering a rupee to the boy. There is no bride-price among the Jats, though some have adopted the custom of dowry. But this system of taking dowry is on the decline on account of the resolution of the *khap* council in 1950. The second form is widow marriage. Soon after the death of her husband, a widow may start living either with his elder or younger brother or, failing them, with any of the parallel cousins within the minimal lineage. After some time, if any such brother agrees to take her as his wife, her father comes and presents a rupee to him. She is thereafter considered a legal wife. This form of marriage is called *baithana* (asking the women to sit in one's house) by the Jats. The third form of marriage is called *mol-lana*, or buying a girl, which was rare. Finally, Jats have also married by elopment (*bhaga-lana*), but it is a form of bygone days.

Among the Hindus, once married, divorce or separation, though prescribed by law, are not considered advisable or good. So both make utmost effort to continue together. A male issue is also considered a must to propitiate the manes and to continue the line.

Marriage among Muslims is a civil contract which has for its objects the procreations and legalisation of children. Any person who is of sound mind and has attained puberty, may enter into such a contract. Their religion also permits polygamy to the extent of four wives at a time. The principal condition for a marital contract is the settlement of *mehr* (dower) to be paid by bridegroom. The *paigham* or *magni* (asking for the bride's hand) is the first ceremony, initiated by the groom or his people on his

behalf, which, in some cases, is followed by several others, such as *manjha*, *sachak*, and *mehndi*. On the appointed day, the groom with his *barat* goes to the bride's house where the *vakil* of the bride obtains the consent of both the contracting parties in the presence of two witnesses, and the *qazi* performs the *nikah* or *aqad* (marriage proper). After the formal leave-taking (*rukhsat*), the bridegroom takes the bride to his house along with the marriage presentations. In a Shia marriage two *maulvis* or *mujtahids*, one from each side, take the place of the *qazi*. Among the Muslims the guardian of a minor can also enter into a marriage contract on behalf of his or her ward.

In a Sikh marriage, the chief rituals are the recitation of extracts from the holy *Granth* and the rounds of the holy book by the couple several times. They also proceed to the bride's house in the form of a *barat*. After offerings at gurdwara the invitees are feasted and entertained.

In a Jain marriage, sacred hymns from their scriptures are recited and the puja of their own deities is performed.

Among the Christians, marriages are governed by the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, as amended in 1952. The marriage customs of the adherents of different denominations in the district usually follow the same general pattern. The marriages may be contracted by the parties concerned or arranged by their relatives. The period of engagement, which precedes the marriage, may be long or short. The banns are published three times (once every week) by the pastor of the Church where the marriage is to be solemnised, to give an opportunity to the members of the community for objections, if any. On the fixed date, the marriage is performed in the Church by the pastor. The essential items are the *kanyadan* by the father or some other relative or friend of the bride, the taking of the marriage vows by both the bride and the bridegroom, the placing of a ring on the third finger of the bride's left hand by the bridegroom (sometimes the two exchange rings), the pronouncement of the couple as husband and wife by the pastor, and the signing of the marriage register by the couple and their witnesses. Wedding festivities then usually follow at the bride's house.

Dowry—The offering and accepting of dowry has been made illegal by the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, but the dowry system still persists in the district, as elsewhere. The dowry is generally settled before the performance of the marriage and is offered or accepted in cash as well as in kind. This system, however, is not very much prevalent among the Jats of the district.

Civil Marriage—The Special Marriage Act, 1954, provides for the performance and registration of marriages by a marriage officer appointed for this purpose in the district. Religious or caste differences are no hurdles in such a marriage, and formal rites and ceremonies are also not required in its performance. Very few people, however, take recourse to civil marriage or register their marriages with the marriage officer. The simplicity of the procedure is one of the reasons for the popularity of this system which is the only option for inter-religion alliances.

Widow Marriage—Among the Hindus, particularly the higher castes, custom does not permit remarriage. But the Hindu Widow Remarriage Act, 1856, has legalised widow marriage. It is more common among the Jats, the Gujars, and the Scheduled Castes. A widow among these castes generally remarries the younger or elder brother of her husband. The personal law of the Muslims, as well as that of Christians, also permits widow marriage.

Divorce—As per census records of 1971, there were 185 men and 25 women recorded as divorced or separated in this district. The corresponding figures at the census of 1961 were 1,491 and 501 respectively. It is, however, not known how many of them have gone through the legal proceedings for divorce or separation. The communitywise figures are also not available. Before the enactment of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, divorce was not permissible among the Hindus, Sikhs and Jains either by custom or by law. Among the Scheduled Castes and some of the Other Backward Classes, however, the dissolution of marriage was permissible with the sanction of the caste panchayat. But after the enactment of the aforesaid Act, divorce and the dissolution of marriage were available under special circumstances for both the parties. The personal law of Muslims allows husband to divorce their wives after paying the *mehr*, but the Dissolution of Muslim Marriage Act, 1939, also empowers the wife to seek divorce from the husband. Divorce among the Christians is governed by the Indian Divorce Act, 1869.

The tendency of seeking divorce is not widespread in the district. The following statement shows the number of divorce cases referred to the courts by men and women in the district and of those in which it was granted from 1966 to 1972 :

Year	Cases referred to court			No. of cases in which divorce was granted
	Total	By men	By women	
1966	8	3	5	2
1967	24	13	11	4
1968	31	17	14	4
1969	21	10	11	7
1970	26	14	12	5
1971	47	16	31	4
1972	48	16	32	14

Prostitution—At present the district does not contain any organised prostitution centres or brothels. The Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956, which aims at rescuing minor girls from being exploited for trafficking and prohibits prostitution, was enforced in the district on May 1, 1958.

Before the enactment of the aforesaid law, there were about 123 prostitutes in the district. In 1961, a massive campaign against this evil was launched throughout the district by the police, and since then there has been a constant check on this profession. The

prostitutes are mostly rehabilitated now. Under the provisions of the Act, during the last five years (1968-1972) only five cases came up before the courts, all resulting in acquittals.

Gambling—The Public Gambling Act, 1867, as amended from time to time, declared gambling (as defined in the Act) in public an offence punishable under law. The vice does not seem to have assumed a serious form here and no peculiarities, special features, or particular periods of indulgence are known. The tahsilwise figures of prosecutions and convictions secured under the Act are given below :

Tahsil	Year and Number of prosecutions and convictions									
	1968		1969		1970		1971		1971	
	Prosecutions	Convictions	Prosecutions	Convictions	Prosecutions	Convictions	Prosecutions	Convictions	Prosecutions	Convictions
Muzaffarnagar	33	27	21	16	8	3	51	43	35	30
Kairana	4	2	12	12	6	3	—	—	—	—
Jansath	16	13	8	5	36	21	4	4	2	1
Budhana	8	4	3	1	10	6	2	2	2	1
Total	61	46	44	34	60	38	57	49	39	32

Home-life

In 1971, as per census records, the district contained 1,066 'houseless persons', of whom 629 were males and 437 females. Of this total, 675 were found in the rural areas and 391 in the urban areas. The tahsilwise break-up of houseless population was : 603 in Kairana, 172 in Muzaffarnagar, 112 in Budhana, and 179 in Jansath. There were 2,90,931 'occupied residential houses' in the district, of which 2,54,267 were in the rural areas and 36,664 in the urban areas. The tahsilwise break-up was : 76,971 in Kairana, 87,115 in Muzaffarnagar, 59,984 in Budhana, and 66,859 in Jansath. The average size of a household (group of persons ordinarily living together and taking meals from a common kitchen) in the district was 6. The households living in one-room tenements predominated, being 40.3 per cent. Of the rest, 30 per cent of the household lived in two-room, 13.9 per cent in three-room, 7 per cent in four-room, and 8.8 per cent in five-room, tenements. In the rural and urban areas of the district, these figures were 39.6, 30, 14.2, 7.1, 8.8, and 45.1, 29.6, 12.3, 6.2, and 6.7 per cent respectively. The average density of persons per room was 2.6 in the rural and 2.9 in the urban areas of the district. In district the majority of households, that is 93.3 per cent, were found to be residing in their own houses and 6.7 per cent, in rented houses. The percentages of tenure status in the rural and urban areas of district were 97.7, 2.3, and 64.7, 35.3 respectively. The following statement, as per the census of 1971, gives the number and classification of households by their size and tenure status :

Tenure status	Census house-holds	Households having number of persons					
		One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six Unspecified
District							
Owned	2,74,705	18,415	9,710	24,475	33,285	40,420	1,48,565 25
Rented	19,810	2,220	2,300	2,125	2,960	2,595	7,605 5
Total	2,94,705	11,930	20,715	26,600	36,245	43,015	1,56,170 30
Rural							
Owned	2,49,115	8,745	16,820	22,845	30,665	37,200	1,33,115 25
Rented	5,770	900	640	645	890	780	1,915 —
Total	2,54,885	9,645	17,460	23,490	31,555	37,980	1,35,030 25
Urban							
Owned	25,790	965	1,565	1,930	2,620	3,220	15,450 —
Rented	14,049	1,320	1,660	1,480	2,970	1,815	5,690 5
Total	39,820	2,285	3,225	3,410	4,690	5,035	21,140 5

Houses in Cities—The houses in cities have not been built according to any set architectural style. The dwellings are generally pukka (made of bricks) and usually having more than one storey. The urban areas also contain a few kutcha houses (made of mud and unbaked bricks), being used by the poor people. The houses do not have much decoration except some *jalis* and openings in the outer portions. Big houses, generally owned by rich persons, contain separate drawing-rooms, dining-rooms, bed-rooms, store-rooms, kitchens and bath-rooms etc. But such accommodation is not available to all the persons and the majority of the urban population is living in one or two-room tenements. The houses have sufficient ventilation and good drainage system. In 1971, as per census records, there were 2,292 water-borne latrines and 15,933 service latrines, and 18,930 domestic electric connections in the urban areas. This shows that about half of the urban population was availing itself of these civic amenities.

Some residential flats and quarters have been constructed in Muzaffarnagar city for government servants. The co-operative housing society has also allotted some plots for the construction of urban houses.

Houses in Villages—In the rural areas, the dwellings are generally single-storeyed kutcha (built of mud or unbaked bricks), and are roofed with wooden beams covered with planks, thatching grass, or tiles. But because of urban influence, pukka houses have also been built in rural areas and this tendency is increasing day by day. In *khadir* areas, where floods are common, the houses are generally made of thatching grass and mud, giving the appearance of a hut. The houses generally contain spacious *gheras* and big *angans* but separate kitchens and gardens are rare. Generally, the houses do not contain latrines and open fields are being used for the purpose. Ventilators, better drainage, improved cattle sheds, etc., are now to be found in many areas where community development schemes are in progress.

Furniture and Decoration—The social and economic status along with the taste of people determine the items and quality of furniture, furnishings and other accessories in their houses. In the urban areas generally people have a sofa-set chairs, *murhas* (chairs made of reed), tables, *takhts* (wooden divan), cots and *niwar* beds, etc. Some people also have fashionable, modern style furniture such as steel sofa-sets, dining-tables, steel almirahs, dressing-tables and the like. In the rural areas, the use of string cots, *murhas*, chairs, and *takht* is common. Because of urban influence some people also have sofa-sets, elegant chairs and tables, etc. Clay or wooden toys, pictures of gods and national or religious leaders and film-stars, and calendars and religious signs made on doors and walls on certain festive occasions serve as the only decoration in the houses of the common people.

Food—The staple food of the people consists of wheat, maize, and rice. The pulses generally consumed are *urd*, *arhar*, *chana* and *mung*, etc. Common people generally subsists on flat cakes of

bread made of wheat flour, taken with cooked pulses and vegetables. On special occasions such as marriage ceremonies, festivals, and the like people take *puri*, *kachauri* and sweets. *Mathha* or *chhachh* (butter-milk), sugar-cane juice, and milk are the favourite beverages of the people who can afford them. Tea, coffee, *bidis* or cigarettes have become more common in recent years. The hookah is very popular in rural areas, especially among the Jat community.

Dress—The dress of the inhabitants of the district is in no way distinctive because a kind of standardisation in the matter of dress is now taking place in urban areas. In the towns the common dress of men consists of pyjamas or *dhoti* and a shirt or *kurta* (long loose shirt). But the tendency to wear trousers, bush-shirts, coats, suit, etc., is increasing day by day. The outer dress for women is the *sari*, blouse, and cardigans or woollen coats (during winters). Girls, particularly school-going, wear *salwar* (very full pyjamas, narrow at the ankle) or *chust* (tight) payjamas or loose bell-bottom payjamas and *kurta*. The younger generation of the district is also fond of coloured bell-bottom trousers and printed shirts. In the villages the common outfit for men is *dhoti* or pyjamas and shirt or *saluka* (short shirt), the turban or cap often being seen as well. Muslims usually wear pyjamas in place of *dhoti*. Women wear the *sari* with *saluka* or blouse, but generally the *lehnga* (long shirt) or *salwar* and *saluka* or *kurta* with an *orhni* (long scarf for the head and shoulders) is the usual dress. Under urban influence, the men of rural areas also usually wear the trousers with shirts or bush-shirts.

Jewellery—Men in the district do not put on jewellery, except for a ring on the finger and a gold or silver chain round the neck, the Jats and the Gujars being often seen wearing small ear-rings (*murkis*) also. Women, who are still fond of jewellery, generally like to wear glass or gold bangles (*churis*), finger rings (*anguthis*), golden chains, nose-rings, nose-pendants or nose-studs, ear-rings, *payals* and the like as a daily wear, but on special occasions like festivals and marriages they wear heavier ornaments such as gold or silver bracelets (*pahunchi kangan*, *dastband*, etc.), armlets (*bajuband*), collars (*hansuli* or *guluband*), necklaces etc. The poor generally have their ornaments made of silver, whereas the rich use those made of gold, sometimes studded with precious or semi-precious stones, including pearls. The tendency to deck oneself with jewellery is, however, on the decline among the people in general because of exorbitant prices of gold and silver, and also because it attracts criminals.

Communal Life

Amusements and Recreations—The indigenous amusements are gradually vanishing from the district and modern amusements such as cinematograph exhibitions, music conferences, dramatic performances and the like have become the common means of recreation of the people. In the urban areas there are better facilities for amusement and recreation, but the popular medium is the cinema. In 1973, the district contained 20 cinema-houses with a total seating

capacity of 11,918 persons. The interest in radio and transistor-sets has also become quite common with the rural as well as the urban population. In 1952, there were 40,659 radios or transistor-sets and 97 television-sets in the district. There are several clubs in Muzaffarnagar city, the better known among them being the Services, Jubilee, Rotary, Lions, Junior Chamber, Inner Wheel, and the Ladies clubs.

The indigenous amusements of the district are the *nautanki* (open-air theatre), circus shows, group songs, *swang* (a type of folk stage performance), *kawwali* programmes, etc., but these are only infrequently performed. Common among the indigenous type of games and sports are foot-race kite-flying, cards, *kabaddi gulli-danda*, and wrestling. The modern games, generally played in schools, colleges, and important clubs, are hockey, cricket, football, volleyball, badminton, table-tennis, etc. The Jagmohan Memorial Hockey Tournament is held annually with the participation of the important teams of northern India. Zila Evam Udyog Pradarshani, important among other exhibitions, is organised annually at Muzaffarnagar city in the months of March and April.

Impact of Zamindari Abolition on Social Life

The U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950 (Act I of 1951), which came into operation in the district on July 1, 1952, brought about significant changes in the social and economic life of the peasants. The rural elite, which consisted mainly of the Zamindars who had been exploiting the actual tillers of the land for the last several centuries is replaced by a community of progressive farmers owning land and cultivating it with a will adopting modern methods of agriculture. Not only has the per capita availability of farm produce increased, but the general condition of the people has also improved manifesting itself in better food, costly dress, richly furnished dwelling and so on. Now educational institutions are coming up more rapidly than the voluntary effort to combat the forces of ignorance which had impeded growth. Rural society is undergoing a fast transformation to meet fresh challenges of life successfully.

STATE
Area and

District and tahsil	Area (sq. km.)		Persons
	1971	1961	
	1	2	3
			4
District			
Total	4,245.0	4,310.5	18,02,289
Rural	4,215.8	4,281.6	15,52,474
Urban	29.4	28.9	2,49,815
Kairana Tahsil			
Total	1,141.9	1,136.0	4,76,723
Rural	1,135.1	1,129.3	4,07,411
Urban	6.8	6.7	69,312
Muzaffarnagar Tahsil			
Total	1,115.5	1,189.8	5,55,427
Rural	1,103.5	1,177.7	4,40,644
Urban	12.0	12.1	1,14,783
Budhana Tahsil			
Total	741.8	742.0	3,63,108
Rural	735.8	736.8	3,43,042
Urban	6.0	5.2	20,061
Jansath Tahsil			
Total	1,271.9	1,242.7	4,07,036
Rural	1,267.3	1,237.8	3,61,377
Urban	4.6	4.9	45,659

1. There has been no jurisdictional change in the district during calculation of area done by the board of revenue.

2. According to central statistical organisation the area of the

MENT I

Population

Reference Page No. 48

Population				
1971			1961	
Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
5	6	7	8	9
9,84,495	8,17,794	14,44,921	7,85,031	6,59,890
8,49,186	7,03,288	12,53,788	6,79,555	5,74,238
1,35,309	1,14,506	1,91,133	1,05,476	85,657
2,59,586	2,17,137	3,79,593	2,04,720	1,74,873
2,21,884	1,85,527	3,26,742	1,75,437	1,51,305
37,702	31,610	52,851	29,283	23,568
3,04,334	2,51,093	4,33,996	2,38,087	1,59,909
2,42,040	1,98,604	3,46,374	1,89,116	1,57,258
62,294	52,489	87,622	48,971	38,651
1,97,823	1,65,280	3,01,586	1,63,042	1,38,544
1,87,057	1,55,985	2,85,596	1,54,533	1,31,608
10,766	9,295	15,990	8,509	7,481
2,22,752	1,84,294	3,29,746	1,79,182	1,50,564
1,98,205	1,63,172	2,95,076	1,60,469	1,34,607
24,547	21,112	34,670	18,713	15,957

the decade. The difference in area figures is due to revised district in 1971 was also 4,245 sq. km.

STATEMENT II

Language/dialect

Reference Page No. 53

Language/dialect	Persons speaking Total
Arabic/Arbi	3
Assamese	2
Bengali	98
Bhojpuri	71
Dogri	1
English	62
Gujrati	25
Gurmukhi	8
Garhwali	4
Gorkhali/Nepali	28
Hindi	14,41,291
Marwari	7
Malayalam	11
Marathi	9
Oriya	6
Punjabi	4,599
Rajasthani	16
Telugu	8
Tamil	10
Urdu	3,56,027
Total	18,02,289

STATEMENT III

List of Fairs

Reference Page No. 66

Town or Village	Name of Fair	Date	Approximate attendance
1	2	3	4
KAIRANA TAHSIL			
Jhinjhana	Deviji-ki-Puja	Vaisakha, <i>sukla</i> 8	1,000
Badaule Sayed	Jeth Dasahra	Jyaishta, <i>sukla</i> 10	1,000
Shamli M. B.	Jeth Dasahra	Jyaishta, <i>sukla</i> 10	2,500
Thana Bhawan	Charria-ka-Mela	Bhadra 13	3,000
Dathera	Devi-ka-Mela	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 9	2,000
Shamli M. B.	Kisan Mela	Magha, <i>sukla</i> 14	2,000
Kairana M. B.	Urs	November and December	1,200
MUZAFFARNAGAR TAHSIL			
Ratta Nagla	Siva Puja	Chaitra, <i>krisna</i> 8-9	1,000
Muzaffarnagar M. B.	Peer-ka-Mela	Jyaishta, <i>sukla</i> 12-15	1,000
Chandpur	Devi-ka-Mela	Bhadra, <i>sukla</i> 8	2,000
Velena	Jain Uchhachao	Bhadra, <i>sukla</i> 14	3,000
Muzaffarnagar M. B.	Chharion-ka-Mela	Bhadra, <i>sukla</i> 4	2,000
Baghra	Dasahra	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 12	1,000
Garthawal	Dasahra	Asvina	1,000
Titauri	Titauri fair	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	1,500
Lachhera	Holi (Ghat)-ka-Mela	Phalgun, <i>sukla</i> 15	1,000
Khanpur	Sivaratri	Phalgun, <i>krisna</i> 13	1,500
Khanjahanpur	Muharram	Muharram 9-10	1,000
Barla	Baba Chand Khan-ki Roshni	Ramzan 25-26	3,000
BUDHANA TAHSIL			
Baranda	Mel-ka-Mela	Chaitra, <i>krisna</i> 8	1,500
Bahram Garh	Deviji-ka-Mela	Chaitra, <i>krisna</i> 8	4,500
Raipur	Plareyji-ka-Mela	Chaitra, <i>krisna</i> 8	4,500
Budhana	Devi-ka-Mela	Chaitra, <i>krisna</i> 14	50,000
Parasoli	Budhey Baba	Jyaishta, <i>sukla</i> 2	1,000

[Continued]

1	2	3	4
Kharar	Mata	Jyaistha, <i>sukla</i> 10	1,000
Kandhla N. A.	Dasahra	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 10	2,000
Dunda Khera	Kartiki Ashnan	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	1,600
Kuralsi	Devi-ka-Mela	Pausa, <i>sukla</i> 15	50,000
Kandhla N. A.	Muharram	Muharram	1,000
Shoron	Urs Garib	Shawal 5	20,000
Khera Mastan	Mastan Shat	Shawal	2,500

JANSATH TAHSIL

Jansath T. A.	Gaureshwari Mela	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 14	1,500
Tissa	Ghat Mela	1st day of Chaitra	5,000
Shukartal	Jyaistha Dasahra	Jyaistha, <i>sukla</i> 10	10,000
Khatauli M. B.	Sravani	Sravana, <i>sukla</i> 15	12,000
Mansurpur	Devi Puja	Sravana, <i>sukla</i> 15	3,000
Morna	Jahar Diwan-ka-Mela	Sravana, <i>krisna</i> 8	5,000
Bhukarheri	Chharion-ka-Mela	Sravana, <i>sukla</i> 15	3,000
Jansath T. A.	Chharion-ka-Mela	Bhadra, <i>krisna</i> 9	3,000
Tisang	Chharion-ka-Mela	Bhadra, <i>krisna</i> 9	1,500
Miranpur T. A.	Chharion-ka-Mela	Bhadra, <i>krisna</i> 9	2,000
Belra	Jahar Diwan-ka-Mela	Bhadra, <i>krisna</i> 1	3,000
Bhawapur	Eudhey-baba-ka-Mela	Bhadra, 2	2,000
Husainpur Bapra	Devi Puja	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 10	5,000
Khatauli M. B.	Ramlila	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 1-10	3,000
Dharampura	Kartiki Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	8,000
Shukartal	Kartika Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	1,00,000
Barkari	Sivaratri	Phalguna, <i>krisna</i> 13	1,000
Gadla	Ghat-ka-Mela	Phalguna <i>krisna</i> 5	2,000

CHAPTER IV

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

LAND UTILISATION AND RECLAMATION

Cultivated Area

The cultivated area in the district in 1848 was 6,28,863 acres (2,54,492.2 hectares). It showed a striking increase of 41,605 acres (16,837 hectares) in 1853. The spread of cultivation was mainly due to the breaking up of new land and the stimulus given to agriculture by the construction of the Ganga canal. At the time of the Settlement of 1860 the cultivated area showed a steep fall of nearly 60 per cent, which was mainly due to the disturbances of 1857, the famine of 1860, and to the fact that a considerable area of arable land was taken up for roads and canals. In the next thirty years or so there was a marked recovery, the figures of cultivated area reaching 6,83,783 acres (276,716.8 hectares) at the Settlement of 1890. The statement below gives the decennial figures of the net, i.e. the purely cultivated, area in the district from 1901 to 1971 :

Year	Cultivated area (in hectares)	Per cent of total area
* 1901	2,99,047	69.32
* 1911	2,97,620	68.86
* 1921	2,75,248.3	64.84
* 1931	2,88,269.2	68.39
* 1941	2,92,688.9	69.63
* 1951	3,11,321.6	73.68
* 1961	3,20,819.8	74.37
** 1971	3,26,929	77.97

* District Census Handbook, 1961.

** Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics for Uttar Pradesh 1971-72.

Culturable Land

Forest land, groves, land prepared for sugar-cane, fallows, waste-lands like pastures and grazing areas, and even land often classified as unculturable because of sandiness, barrenness, re-infection, ravine scouring or overgrowth of *dhak* and other shrubs, constitute culturable land in the district. The decennial figures

of area of such land in the district from 1901 to 1971 are given below :

Year	Culturable land (in hectares)
1901	73,456
1911	77,544.3
1921	91,788.4
1931	76,789.2
1941	73,191.8
1951	55,910.9
1961	58,233.0
1971	39,439.0

The culturable area of 39,439 hectares in the year 1970-71 included 5,332 hectares under forests, 4,821 hectares under groves, 13,541 hectares under culturable waste, 1,174 hectares under pastures and grazing grounds, besides the fallow land which measured 14,571 hectares. Barren and *usar* lands in the district measured 12,893 hectares and the area of the land put to non-agricultural uses, e.g. land covered with water, roads, railway lines, buildings, graveyards, etc., was 40,135 hectares in the same year.

Precarious Tracts

Till the fifties of the last century, when the *Solani* made its course through this district and the Ganga canal came into existence, the *khadir* had been fairly fertile. In 1859, the collector of the district reported that the *khadir* land had undergone serious damage and that reductions of revenue were necessary. The causes of this deterioration were threefold—floods from the *Solani*, formation of swamps accompanied with development of *reh*, and a saline efflorescence, which had rendered the land wholly unfit for cultivation.

The *khadir* now presents a broad far-stretching tract of level country having only patches of cultivation, and elsewhere bearing just coarse grass, with occasional clumps of tamarisk (*jhau*) and hardly any trees. It also serves as a grazing ground for the cattle.

The upland above the *khadir* between the ravines and the Kali river traversed by the main Ganga canal, is generally known as the Ganga canal tract. Large areas of fertile land to the west of the canal were badly affected by percolation from the Ganga canal. It is only after numerous drainage improvement works undertaken during the close of the last century by the government, that the land has been secured for cultivation. It involves hard and careful farming, for which the entire credit goes to the Jat cultivators of the district.

The construction of the Ganga canal in 1854, resulted in ample provision of water to the tract. In addition to bringing agricultural prosperity to the area, the canal has had a marked influence on the growth of orchards and plantation of trees. All along the banks there are thick plantations of *shisham*, *tun*, *babul*, and other trees. The increasing certainty of a fair return in agriculture and the reclamation of nearly all arable land are the main benefits accruing from the canal.

The canal is also stated to be the cause of developing certain positive agricultural drawbacks in the terrain lying in its course. The most important has been the damage done to the soil by over-saturation of the country, and the consequent rise of the water level and formation of *reh*-infested *usar* lands caused by obstructed drainage. While it was not possible to turn aside a great work like the Ganga canal on account of the depression in which the Kali Nadi (East) had its source, it is to be regretted that the existence of this line of drainage was not acknowledged earlier in a more practical way. In the initial stages distributaries were constructed without regard to the natural drainage of the country. The situation was worsened by the laying down of railway lines, on raised continuous platforms, having a lesser number of culverts. The canal authorities, being conscious of the realities of the situation, took remedial measures from the seventies to the close of the last century. In the eastern parganas the Jansath distributary was abandoned, drainage channels were dug in Jansath and Khatauli parganas, and the bed of the Kali Nadi (East) was deepened and straightened.

In the northern portion of the Ganga canal, which extends from the Saharanpur district boundary to the Bhopa bridge in this district, no fewer than 236 km. of drains were constructed. Of these 30 km. lie in the Solani *khadir* and were constructed between 1870 and 1890. The other important drains constructed between 1875 and 1900 were the Muzaffarnagar drain, the Narah and Dhandhera drains, the Badhiwala and Rohi drains, the Harsauli drain, the Pur drain, the Pinna drain, the Razaqullahpur drain, the Basera drain, and the Meghakheri, Tajpur and Khadda drains. In the tract covered by the southern section of the Ganga canal, 7 important drains with a total length of 187 km. were constructed between 1876 and 1886, the chief ones being the Kadirabad, Karauli, Jansath, Sheikhpura, Bhainsi, Khatauli, and Ladpur drainage works. Several old drainage channels were deepened, enlarged or extended, and many other smaller drains were completed between 1892 and 1900. In all, over 370 km. of drainage channels were constructed in this part by the close of the last century. To improve the drainage of the area in the catchment area of the Kali Nadi, the work of deepening of the river was taken up in 1878 and completed a few years later. The steps undertaken have had a beneficial effect on the agriculture of the district, although the menace of saturation has not yet been fully removed or controlled. The Deoband canal, however, has led to considerable waterlogging in the land immediately to the north-east of Charthawal. In 1900, the drain from Ghisukhera to the Hindan was constructed to save the neighbouring

land from saturation. The drainage works along the eastern Yamuna canal were taken up from the year 1875 to 1891 in the neighbourhood of Bhainswal, Shamli and Kandhla, and nearly five and a half lakhs of rupees had been spent. Towards the northern portion there are the Khanpur, Harhar and Bhanera drains in the neighbourhood of Thana Bhawan. Farther south the chief drains are the Bhainswal, Salawar, and Shamli cuts, while east of Kandhla the large Fatehpur drain carries off the superfluous water into the Kirsani. Of these, the Bhainswal cut lies on the right of the canal, its purpose being to carry off a portion of the waters which come down into the Katha; the Salawar cut on the east does the same and discharges into the Kirsani; the Shamli cut relieves the town of that name, which suffered severely in wet years; and the Fatehpur drain which starts from the large *jhil* of Fatehpur Aldi in Kandhla, about 2 km. from the right bank, passes under the canal through a syphon and discharges into the Kirsani. These works have mitigated to a large extent the harmful effects of waterlogging and flooding of cropped areas and saved considerable agricultural land.

Soil Conservation

The land worst affected by large-scale soil-erosion was 87,600 hectares in area in 1971-72, of which about 2,000 hectares was covered by sandy hillocks, the rest being the catchment area of different rivers as under :

Name of river	Area (in hectares)
Hindan	24,000
Kali Nadi	21,200
Yamuna	13,520
Ganga	11,600
Kirsani	10,560
Nagin	4,720
Total	85,600

Soil conservation work was taken up in 1964-65 by trained staff under the district soil conservation officer. The district has been divided into three divisions: one covers the area in Un development block in tahsil Kairana; the second covers the areas in Purqazi, Morna, and Jansath development blocks, mostly in tahsil Jansath, a part falling in tahsil Muzaffarnagar; and the third division spreads over Muzaffarnagar, Beghra, Lahtauli, Budhana, Kandhla, Shamli, and Kairana development blocks in the tahsils of Budhana, Kairana, Muzaffarnagar, and Jansath. The programme aims at a comprehensive and integrated approach to put the soil and the water resources to intelligent, scientific, protective and fruitful uses by contour bunding, check-dams, levelling, contour sowing of crops, planting of grass on bunds, strip-and cover-cropping, hot-weather

cultivation and by introducing crops which take a longer time to ripen like *arhar*, castor, etc. These agronomical practices help in checking the action of rain on the soil and in reducing chances of its erosion. The area of land covered under the various soil conservation works from 1964-65 to 1971-72 is given below :

Year	Area surveyed (in hectares)	Area on which soil conservation work was done (in hectares)
1964-65	2,687	1,172
1965-66	4,795	1,530
1966-67	3,544	1,121
1967-68	760	903
1968-69	4,900	1,205
1969-70	3,829	3,119
1970-71	6,367	2,812
1971-72	4,185	3,404

IRRIGATION

The district is well irrigated. The most important works are the canals, there being four main ones in the district, viz., the main line of the Ganga canal, the Anupshahr and the Deoband branches of the same, and the eastern Yamuna canal. *Kachhar*, i.e. land on the banks of rivers after the flood waters recede retains sufficient moisture to produce good crops without irrigation.

Canals are also supplemented by wells, chiefly tube-wells, run by electricity or diesel power. Tanks, streams, and rivers are used to a very small extent for irrigation.

In 1891 the total irrigated area in the district was 3,81,364 acres (1,54,332.3 hectares), being nearly 55 per cent of the total cultivated area. This is open to correction, because Miller, who had carried out the Settlement then, had classified as irrigated the entire area capable of irrigation, and not only that which was actually watered. The average annual irrigated area for the five years ending 1901 was 2,88,707 acres (1,16,835.2 hectares) or nearly 43 per cent of the total cultivated area. The following statement gives the decennial figures of gross irrigated area in the district from 1911 to 1971 :

Year	Gross irrigated area (in hectares)	Per cent of gross cropped area
1911	1,13,215	31.7
1921	1,42,316.9	45.1
1931	1,62,204.4	45.8
1941	1,91,536.5	53.1
1951	2,01,896.0	50.7
1961	2,26,053.0	52.8
1971	3,47,050	72.6

Means of Irrigation

The statement below gives figures of the net areas irrigated from canals, wells, and other sources for a number of years since 1901—02 to 1970-71 :

Year	Area irrigated from wells (including tube-wells) (in hectares)	Area irrigated from canals (in hectares)	Area irrigated from other sources (in hectares)
1901-02	36,312.5	93,954.2	2,190.5
1951-52	56,906.9	1,29,441.8	1,206
1961-62	59,897.8	1,31,901.0	464
1968-69	107,486.0	1,34,672.0	848
1970-71	1,22,765.0	1,29,938.0	892

Wells—Tube-wells and wells also constitute an important source of irrigation in the district. In the upland area masonry wells are scarce, and earthen wells being very deep, can only be sunk at a great cost and do not last long. But in the tract lying between the Yamuna and the Katha and in villages east thereof, the wells are numerous, and are usually worked by *rahats* (Persian wheels), which are now being replaced by pumping-sets.

Since 1952 the government has taken steps for construction of State tube-wells and installation of pumping-sets in cultivators' own wells, and consequently lifting devices like *charas* (leather bucket) and *dhenkli* (leaver and pot) have lost their traditional importance. The following data is interesting :

Year	Number of wells	
	Pakka	Kutchra
1951-52	27,929	3,912
1961-62	10,297	1,577
1970-71	9,585	666

The area irrigated by wells was 19,900 hectares in 1970-71.

During British rule much work was done in the field of irrigation and a number of projects like the Ganga and the Yamuna canals were carried out in this area. This district has benefited by both these canal systems to a very large extent. But now they are no longer adequate for its needs. Besides the colossal programme of construction of State tube-wells, liberal assistance to the cultivators to set up their own private minor irrigation projects like construction and boring of wells, and installation of *rahats* and diesel or electric pumping-sets is also provided.

There were 147 State tube-wells in the district before the First Five-year Plan. Between 1951-52 and 1970-71 nearly 300 more such wells have been sunk. The total area irrigated by them was 42,795 hectares in 1970-71. The progress of the minor irrigation schemes during the last 20 years is shown below :

Works completed	First Five-year Plan 1951-56	Second- Five-year Plan 1956-61	Third Five-year Plan 1961-66	Fourth Five-year Plan 1969-74	Irrigated area in 1973-74 (in hectares)
Construction of masonry wells	1,637	1,027	2,682	1,968	2,362
Installation of Persain wheels (<i>rahats</i>)	348	1,032	3,263	3,427	2,762
Installation of pumping-sets	6	137	368	4,695	15,024
Construction of private tube-wells	40	487	2,257	13,551	1,08,408

Between 1971-1974, 2,100 pumping-sets and 5,480 private tube-wells were set up by the cultivators with the financial assistance given by the government.

Canals—There are four main canals in the district : the Ganga, the Anupshahr, the Deoband, and the eastern Yamuna canals. Fore most of these is the main Ganga canal which was opened for irrigation in 1854. The Anupshahr and the Deoband canals are virtually branches of the main Ganga canal. The total length of the Ganga canal with its branches and distributary channels in the district was 718 km. in 1972.

Yamuna Canal—The eastern Yamuna canal is the oldest canal system in the district. It was opened for irrigation in 1830 in its present form although it dates back to much earlier times. It was originally conceived during the reign of Shahjahan and the construction work was taken up during the time of Muhammad Shah. Traces of the old canal still exist in the northern part of the present channel, the older alignment having been abandoned as a result of being faulty. The canal originates in district Saharanpur and enters this district at the village of Aurangabad in the north of pargana Thana Bhawan, and flows southwards through Shamli and Kandhla parganas into Meerut district. It enters the district at 90th km., and just within the boundary of the district is crossed by a bridge on the road between Jalalabad and Shamli. At the 104th km. at Bhainswal there is a fall and a regulator, and the next fall on the canal in the district is at the 114th km. The canal and the distributary channels totalled a length of 424 km. in 1972. Of the main distributaries the Kalarpur waters the land between the Hindan and the Kirsani rivers. The distributaries on the west of the canal are the Bhainswal, Badheo, Kesarwa, Khandraul, and Kandhla, and on the east are the Yarpur, Banat, Malipur, Bhanera, and Ailam distributaries.

Ganga Canal—The Ganga canal enters the district close to the edge of the high bank of the Ganga in Pur Chhappar pargana, and leaves it within some ten kilometres to the west of the Kali Nadi in Khatauli. During its course through the southern portion of the district it crosses the basin within which the headwaters of the Kali Nadi (East) collect. The first design for the portion of the work lying within this district embraced a canal with a bed slope of 18 inches (46 cm.) to a mile, the superfluous declivity being disposed of by means of four descents of 8 feet (2.5 metres) each in masonry falls at Budhpur, Belra, Jauli, and Chitaura. An examination of the texture of the subsoil strata necessitated modification of the original design and lowering of the slope to 15 inches (38 cm.) more to a mile. The remodelling of the canal was completed in 1893.

Entering the district at its 48th km., the canal flows almost due south as far as Belra. Just beyond Belra it bends slightly towards the south-west, approaching the central portion of the high land forming the watershed between the Kali Nadi (West) and the Kali Nadi (East). The distance between these two rivers is about 13 km., and the canal passes almost down the centre. At the 76th km., the Anupshahr branch leaves the main canal on the left bank. From this point the canal flows in a south-westerly direction for the rest of its course through the district. The Ganga canal gives off a number of distributary channels. The right main distributary leaves the canal at the 32nd km., a short distance below Roorkee, and flows through the parganas of Pur Chhappar, Muzaffarnagar and Khatauli. Since the construction of the Deoband canal in 1880 the upper portion of this distributary has been abandoned, but lower down it is still fed from the main canal. The left main distributary leaves at the 34th km., and flows close to the high bank of the Ganga through Pur Chhappar and Bhukarheri and on into Sambalhera parganas, eventually joining the Anupshahr branch. At Muhammadpur, close to the district boundary, the right Muhammadpur distributary leaves the canal, flowing through the north-west of Pur Chhappar to join the right main distributary at Bhaissaini. A short distance below, the Basehra distributary leaves the canal and flows for a long distance almost parallel with the main channel past the village of Basehra to join the right main distributary. Further south, at Jauli, a distributary of that name takes off, flowing through Jauli and Jansath to Jahangirpur, where it joins the right main distributary.

Anupshahr Branch of Ganga Canal—Anupshahr branch was at first named as the Fatehgarh branch canal as it was intended to continue it as far as Fatehgarh in district Farrukhabad. But the water supply in the canal was found to be insufficient and the branch ended in Anupshahr tahsil of Bulandshahr district. It was completed in 1860. Around the year 1879 it was extended up to Etah district where it joins the lower Ganga canal. In Muzaffarnagar district the branch runs at a level lower than the surrounding country and is thus of little use for flow irrigation. It provides water to only a few villages in the extreme south-eastern corner of the district, and traverses the north-east of Jansath pargana and the south-west of Bhuma Sambalhera pargana, giving off distributaries at Salarpur Churiala on its right and left banks respectively.

Deoband Branch of Ganga Canal—This was constructed during the famine of 1877 and was completed in 1880. It serves the greater part of the area between the Hindan and the Kali Nadi (West). The branch leaves off the main Ganga canal at the 43rd km. from what was formerly the outlet of the right main distributary. After flowing through the Deoband pargana in Saharanpur district, it enters this district near Kotesra in the extreme north of pargana Charthawal, and flows in a somewhat irregular course past the town of Charthawal, from where it passes through the Baghra and Shikarpur parganas, terminating in a ravine of the Hindan not far from the town of Budhana. The canal gives off two distributaries, both of which are on the left bank. The first is known as the Lohari and leaves the canal at its 46th km., half-way between Charthawal and Ghisukhera, from where it flows past the village of Luhari, and passing through the Baghra and Shikarpur parganas, falls into the Kali Nadi (West). The other is the Charthawal, which takes off at the 48th km., close to the town of Charthawal, and irrigates the portion of land between the main canal and the Luhari distributary.

AGRICULTURE INCLUDING HORTICULTURE

Land and Soils

The district can be divided into four fairly, distinct tracts. On the extreme east there is the riparian tract of the Ganga containing the whole of the Gordhanpur and portions of Bhukarheri and Bhuma Sambalhera. Moving westwards, next comes the area between the Ganga and Kali Nadi (West) through which runs the main Ganga canal, and then the doab of the Kali Nadi (West) and the Hindan river. Lastly, the remaining tract comprises the portion of the country which extends from the Hindan to the Yamuna, the eastern part of which is traversed by the Yamuna canal.

Apart from minor peculiarities of situation, the soils possess the same general characteristics throughout the district. Good ordinary loam or *dumat* land suitable for wheat, barley, and sugar-cane is locally known as *rausli*; stiff clay soil, such as is often found in the rice tracts, is called *dakar*, while the low-lying parts yielding rice are called *dahar*. Besides these, there is a hard and stiff soil, which has at one time been the bed of *jhils* known as *dabar* or *jot*, and which is also suitable for rice cultivation. *Bhur* or *bhudda* (generally yielding barley gram, and other coarse Rabi cereals) is the usual name for all light dry soils which have a larger proportion of sand. High ridges of sand are locally called *ghur* and are usually not fertile. Pargana Kandhla has a greater proportion of first-class soil than others, and next in order come Shamli, Baghra, and Shikarpur.

Harvests

The method of agriculture in this district is the same as in the other districts of the doab. Kharif, Rabi, and Zaid are the usual harvests. The Kharif crops are sown in Asadha-Sravana and reaped in Asvina-Kartika after the cessation of the rains, usually well before the preparation of the fields for the Rabi sowings which begin in October-November, i.e. Kartika and Agrahayana, and are

harvested in March-April and even in May. The Zaid or intermediate crops comprise a few minor crops like maize, melons, vegetables, spices, and tobacco and occupied only an area comprising 5,000 hectares in 1972-73. Melons are mostly grown in *kachhars* on the sandy banks of the rivers. The relative figures of the total area covered by the Kharif and Rabi crops in the district are as follows :

Year	Area under Kharif (in hectares)	Area under Rabi (in hectares)
1901-02	1,77,096.4	1,71,877.2
1931-32	1,71,398.5	1,95,521.7
1961-62	2,41,800.5	1,85,462.9
1970-71	2,76,540	1,99,878

The double-cropped area, more correctly the area sown more than once in a year (*dofasli*), is sufficiently large. While the figures for 1901-02 give a total of 58,201 hectares as double-cropped area, by 1931-32 it had risen to 65,890.4 hectares. Again, by 1961-62 it had gone up to 1,07,654.9 hectares, while the figure for 1970-71 was 1,51,051 hectares. A good deal depends on the nature of the soil, the availability of water, and the character of the crops grown. Double-cropping is mostly practised in those parts of the district where much of the land is ordinarily under sugar-cane, *arhar*, or rice and there are assured means of irrigation.

Principal Crops

Kharif—Rice is a valuable crop of this season. It is largely grown in the tracts where a sufficient supply of water for irrigation is obtained. Since the opening of the Ganga canal in these areas the cultivation of finer varieties of rice has increased. Among the numerous local varieties of rice the most notable is *munji*. Improved paddy strains like Saket-4, Bijai, Ratna, Jaya, T-3, and I. R-8 are mostly preferred by cultivators for sowing in the district. There are two main harvests of rice, the earlier one known as *kuari*, and the later called *jarhan*. The former is sown late in June or in early July and a good September harvest depends on the adequacy of rainfall. After harvesting it, the fields are prepared for sowing the Rabi crops like wheat, barley, gram, and pea in October. The *jarhan* is sown after the commencement of the rains. The plants are first raised in specially prepared nursery beds, and on attaining a height of nearly 15 cm., are transplanted in properly tended fields. The crop is reaped in November, whereafter the fields, sometimes lie fallow during the Rabi season, though lately this practice is being abandoned as a prelude to intensive cultivation. The parganas of Thana Bhawan Pur Chhapar, Bhuma Sambalhera, Kandhla, Muzaffarnagar, Charthawal, and Jansath are specially notable for the cultivation of rice. The total area occupied by rice in the district had risen from 16,911.8 hectares in the beginning of the present century to 24,037 hectares by the fifties; in 1969-70 it covered 41,847 hectares and in 1971-72, 46,963 hectares. The total production of rice in the district in 1971-72 was 56,144 tonnes.

Maize is one of the important grains grown in the district. The maize crop is raised without much labour. Its greatest advantage lies in the fact that it is among the first to reach maturity, and consequently is less liable to suffer from early cessation of the rains, while at the same time it leaves the fields free for Rabi preparation earlier than other crops such as jowar and *bajra*. It occupied a sizable area of 19,829.6 hectares in 1901. Up to the early fifties of the present century, its cultivation showed a decreasing trend, reaching a meagre figure of 6,596.4 hectares in 1951. In the years that followed, there was a remarkable increase in the area under maize; measuring 22,076.8 hectares in 1961, 23,000 hectares in 1969-70, and expanding to 23,210 hectares in 1971-72. The total production of maize in the district came up to 25,824 tonnes in 1971-72. The high-yielding varieties in maize evolved at Pantnagar and other agriculture research centres are mostly sown by the cultivators of the district. Hybrid maize No. 2 and T-41 are popular here.

In comparatively inferior soils and the narrow strips of sandy land along the river banks jowar and *bajra* are the main Kharif staples. During the first half of the present century *bajra* covered an area between 12,000 hectares and 16,000 hectares in the district. From the sixties onwards its cultivation has shown a decreasing trend, coming down to only 5,631 hectares in 1971-72. Its total yield in that year measured 1,133 tonnes. Jowar has fared no better than *bajra*. From 10,522 hectares in 1901 it had come down to 3,874 hectares in 1971-72, the total yield being 1,511 tonnes.

Among other Kharif cereals, *sawan*, *mandua*, and *kodon*, and pulses like *urd* and *moong* may be mentioned. *Sawan* and *mandua* were among the favourite Kharif crops in the past, but price incentives have changed the cropping pattern in recent years. More valuable crops like rice, maize, and sugar-cane have replaced cultivation of these cereals. In 1971-72, the total area covered by the three crops, *sawan*, *mandua*, and *kodon* was about 562 hectares, while *urd* was sown in an area of 954 hectares and *moong* in that of 142 hectares only.

Rabi—Wheat is the most important among the Rabi staples in the district and covers more than 50 per cent of the total Rabi area. It has maintained its predominant position in the district during the last seventy years. The wheat crop requires a good soil, careful tillage, and an assured means of irrigation. In nearly all the parganas it constitutes the chief product of the spring harvest, though the proportion varies in different parts. In the inferior soils, the crop is often sown in combination with barley or gram or both, forming the mixture locally known as *gochai*. From the fifties of the present century its cultivation has received an additional fillip on account of the demand for more food-grains. In recent years a number of improved and high-yielding varieties have been evolved at Pantnagar agricultural university and at various other research institutions in the country, and the cultivators have now virtually replaced their indigenous seed stock with the new and better hybrid seeds. The varieties mostly sown by the cultivators are Sonalika, Kalyan Sona, Sharbati, Sonara, K-68 and K-65. In 1921 wheat covered an area of 97385.2 hectares in the district. In 1951 it was

sown in an area of 1,04,814.0 hectares. By 1961 the area had risen to 1,12,705.3 hectares, and in 1971-72 it covered, in all, an area of 1,56,163 hectares, the total yield being 2,87,390 tonnes.

Barley was another important Rabi crop in the district in the past, but has gradually yielded place to wheat and other valuable crops, the area under it, which was 13,840 hectares in 1901, coming down to 5,665.6 hectares in 1941. By 1961 the area further shrank to 2,237.4 hectares, while in 1971-72 it covered a meagre area of 480 hectares. The improved varieties mostly sown in the district are K-12 and Jyoti.

The remaining Rabi area is taken up for the most part by gram and pea. Gram is a hardy crop and thrives well in all kinds of soils. It is also sown mixed with wheat or barley and sometimes with both. From 1901 to 1961, the cultivation of gram nearly a constant trend in the district, the total area sown under it fluctuating around 40,468.6 hectares in the intervening decades. But after that a decreasing trend set in, and by 1967-68 the area had almost halved, the figure for 1971-72 going down to 12,858 hectares only, the total yield of gram in the district in that year being estimated at 9,331 tonnes. T-3 variety of gram is the popular strain preferred by the farmers here.

Pea has gained importance in the district in recent years. In 1961-62 it covered 13,978.2 hectares. In 1967-68 it was sown in 12,780.3 hectares although in 1971-72 there was some decrease, the area under it being 6,502 hectares with a total yield of 2,823 tonnes only. The T-163 variety is generally sown in the district.

Of the Rabi pulses only *arhar* and *masur* are important. An interesting feature of *arhar* is that it is sown with the main Kharif crops and harvested after most of the Rabi crops. This is, perhaps, why it is hardly ever sown as a single crop, being usually combined with jowar or *bajra*, which are harvested by November—December, leaving it alone in the fields. Cultivation of *masur* is getting popular in the district and there is a noticeable shrinkage in the area under *arhar*. The reason seems to be the very long time taken by *arhar* for maturing. *Arhar* and *masur* were sown in the lengths of areas given below from 1961 to 1972 in the district :

Year	Area under <i>arhar</i> (in hectares)	Area under <i>masur</i> (in hectares)
1961-62	751.0	2,804.4
1967-68	106.4	2,844.4
1971-72	85.0	2,270.0

The total estimated production of *masur* and *arhar* in 1971-72 was 1,423 and 133 tonnes respectively.

The following statement gives the figures of average yield in quintals per hectare of the main Kharif and Rabi cereals in the district in the year 1971-72, as compared to the corresponding figures of the State averages of the same year :

Cereal	Average yield in district	Average yield in State
Kharif		
Rice	11.95	7.98
Jowar	3.90	3.67
Bajra	2.01	5.58
Maize	8.02	5.65
Urd	1.58	1.88
Moong	1.92	1.55
Rabi		
Wheat	18.40	12.66
Barley	8.98	10.41
Gram	7.26	7.88
Pea	4.34	8.36
Arhar	15.71	12.81
Masur	6.27	6.35

The average yield of rice, maize, wheat, and arhar is considerably higher than the State average.

Cash Crops

Sugar-cane, cotton, oil-seeds, ground-nut, potato, tubers, vegetables, cucurbits, sunn-hemp, and tobacco are the main cash crops of the district.

Cotton was an important cash crop in the district in the days gone by. In 1901 it covered an area of 25,736 acres (10,414.5 hectares), which decreased to 10,263 acres (4,153.0 hectares) in 1951, and came down to only 5,365 hectares in 1971-1972.

Sugar-cane is one of the most important Kharif cash crops of the district and the area under it has been showing a consistent increase. From 28,770 hectares in 1901 it rose to nearly 40,468 hectares in 1931, to 6,734.5 hectares in 1951, and finally to 1,43,554 hectares in 1971-72. The old and indigenous varieties of sugar-cane have now altogether been replaced by better and high-yielding strains like C. O.-1148 and C. O.-1158. The total output of sugar-cane amounted to 70,57,239 tonnes in 1971-72.

Oil-seeds do not occupy a sizable area in the district. Ground-nut, mustard, til, and linseed covered a total area of 625 hectares 1971-72, and the total production of all these oil-seeds amounted to nearly 256 tonnes in that year.

Sunn-hemp is sown both for its fibre and for its use as green manure. It occupied a total area of 2,245 hectares in the district in 1960-70. Tobacco and jute were sown in an area of 58 and 118 hectares respectively in 1971-72.

Vegetables, though they occupy a small area in the district, especially around the town and large villages, constitute valuable crops. Potato, which is one of the most important among tubers, covered 1,317 hectares making the district stand third in the whole of the Meerut Division in 1971-72, coming after Meerut and Bulandshahr districts.

The statement below shows how the average yield per hectare in quintals of the important cash crops in the district in 1971-72, as compared to the corresponding State average figures in the same year :

Crop	Average yield in district	Average yield in State
Sugar-cane	491.61	387.35
Potato	95.89	95.89
Ground-nut	4.23	5.59
Tobacco	8.97	9.81
Sunn-hemp	3.85	3.85
Jute	14.84	14.84
Cotton	1.12	0.83

The district is one of five western districts of U. P. which occupy the top position in the country, surpassing even Punjab and Haryana, so far as the per hectare gross value of agricultural production is concerned. The farmers of these districts are harvesting more in terms of money per hectare than their brother farmers elsewhere in the country. This conclusion is based on a comparative study made in 1974 of the gross value of per hectare production of important crops in the three States by the Uttar Pradesh Government. The study was based on actual production in 1970-71 in the five districts, viz., Muzaffarnagar, Saharanpur, Meerut, Aligarh and Bulandshahr, and in the States of Punjab and Haryana.

Improvement of Agriculture

Ever since the days of the Second World War in the forties of the present century, the growing population and the consequent demand for more food-stuffs necessitated far-reaching changes and improvements in the pattern and technique of agriculture. The government took various steps and provided incentives in this direction. 'Grow More Food' campaign was a war cry of those days.

After the achievement of Independence, and the growing need for self-sufficiency the emphasis on agriculture has been further intensified and the development of agriculture has been assigned an important place in the country's Five-year Plans. Improved

and scientific methods of growing wheat, barley, and other crops as well as the Japanese method of paddy cultivation have been popularised among the cultivators. These methods include proper tillage, sufficient and timely manuring, sowing of seeds of better and high-yielding varieties, proper and timely irrigation, and protection of crops against pests and diseases.

The sixties of the century saw the ushering in of the 'green revolution', under which schemes of intensive cultivation and sowing of high-yielding seeds of wheat, barley, maize, jowar, *bajra*, sugar-cane, and other crops have been implemented. The government agriculture farms in the district and various other agencies of the Central and State Governments, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, the agricultural colleges and universities and research centres in the country are engaged in orienting the farmers for adopting better and scientific methods and implements of cultivation by practical demonstrations and exhibitions in the fields. Through the development blocks, the latest techniques and cultivation practices, improved implements, high-yielding varieties of seeds, chemical fertilizers, and plant protection services are made available to the agriculturists in the district. Farmers are being trained in improved agricultural techniques. Rabi, Kharif, and Zaid campaigns are organised every year through which the experts of the agriculture department and development blocks explain and demonstrate the latest scientific methods in their fields to enable them to increase the agricultural output.

Seed Supply

The popular high-yielding varieties of seed in the district are Exotic paddy and millets, Hybrid maize, U. P. wheat and the wheat evolved at the Agricultural University Pantnagar, U. P. maize, and Hybrid *bajra*. Seeds are supplied by the government through the seed stores maintained by the agriculture department and co-operative institutions, the former supplying seeds on cash payment or as *tagavi* and the latter on *sawai* basis, that is repayable at 25 per cent in excess of the quantity advanced. There were 88 such seed stores in the district in 1971-72, of which 62 were under the agriculture department and the rest were managed by the co-operative institutions. The seed stores, however, meet a small fraction of the total requirement of seeds of the farmers, the bulk being supplied by the local dealers who obtain their supplies from the National Seeds Corporation, Tarai Seed Development Corporation, and other agencies.

The total quantity of improved seeds of various cereals distributed by these seed stores had risen to 20,640 quintals in 1971-72. Seeds worth a total amount of Rs 34.5 lakhs were required in the district in 1972-73 and 1973-74, and more than three-fourths of this requirement was met by the cultivators themselves, the rest being managed by co-operative institutions and the seed stores of the agriculture department.

There are two farms maintained by the agriculture department in the district. One is at Babri in Shamli development block

and was established in 1959, and the other is at Allauddinpur in Kairana development block, being established in 1960. The Babri farm had 72 acres under cultivation in 1971. It gave a total yield of 1,414 quintals of improved seeds of different cereals in that year which were sold to the cultivators. The farm earned a profit of Rs 30,993 in that year. The farm at Allauddinpur had a cultivated area of 44 acres, and the total yield amounted to 1,187 quintals in 1971 and earned a profit of Rs 37,605 in that year.

Soil Nutrient

Cattle dung, farm refuse, and stable litter are the common manures used by the cultivators. The value of green manure crops such as *lobia*, *guar*, *dhaincha*, *sanai* and *moong*, which provide nitrogenous ingredients to the soil and increase its fertility, is being increasingly realised by the cultivators.

The use of chemical fertilisers, has also become popular with the cultivators in this district.

The seed stores of the agriculture and co-operative departments meet only a part of the total need of the cultivators for the green manure seeds and chemical fertilisers. The cultivators have usually to make their own arrangements, purchasing them from licensed dealers. The seed stores of the agriculture and co-operative departments distributed 14,741 tonnes of chemical fertilizers in the district in 1968-69 and the quantity thus distributed rose to 29,338 tonnes in 1971-72. During the following two years i.e. 1972-73 and 1973-74, it is estimated that fertilizers worth a total sum of Rs 13.43 lakhs are to be required in the district. Of this requirement the government will meet only 40 per cent, and the major portion of it has to be managed by the farmers through private sources.

Agricultural Implements and Machines

The pace of replacement of old and traditional agricultural implements such as spade, sickles, wooden ploughs, etc., by improved and modern implements of agriculture has been faster in this district than in most of the other districts of the State. The reason apparently is the comparatively more advanced agriculture and the resultant economic well-being of the farmers. According to the Live-stock Census Report of 1966, there were in the district 1,13,162 ploughs; 18,322 other improved agricultural implements like harrows, cultivators, sowing machines and threshers; 80,479 chaff-cutters (chopping machines); 172 machines for spraying insecticides and pesticides;—61,434 bullock-carts; 2,985 sugar-cane crushers; 1,225 tractors; 509 *ghanis* or oil-seed crushers; 3,263 oil-engines and electric pumping-sets for irrigation; and 10,457 Persian wheels (*rahats*) fitted on the wells for watering the fields. In 1970 there were 11 private concerns for manufacturing agricultural implements and tools in the district such as threshers, harrows, ploughs, Persian wheels, sugar-cane crushers, etc., and implements worth Rs 7.5 lakhs are being annually produced by them.

State Aid to Agriculture

The agriculture department advances *taqavi* loans to cultivators for purposes like the purchase of chemical fertilizers, agricultural implements, improved varieties of seeds, pesticides, and bullocks, a sum of Rs 76 lakhs being distributed in 1970. The co-operative societies numbering 315 also advance credit to member-farmers for these purposes. A total sum of Rs 223 lakhs was distributed as loans by these societies to the cultivators in the year 1971. The apex bank of the co-operatives and the U. P. Rajya Sahkari Bhumi Vikas Bank, both at the headquarters town, also provided loans for agricultural purposes amounting to Rs 399 lakhs in the year 1970.

Rotation of Crops and Fallowing

The well-tried practice of leaving the fields fallow for at least one season to allow the land time to recuperate so as to enhance the fertility of the soil, which was common among the cultivators of this district, is being gradually given up and the object is sought to be achieved by sowing the crops in suitable rotation. The common rotation of crops prevalent amongst the cultivators in the district is :

One Year Rotational Pattern

Type of Soil	Irrigated/ Unirrigated	Kharif	Rabi
1. Sandy	Unirrigated	Urd+Arhar Bajra Jowar Sweet potato	Barley
	Irrigated	Maize	Wheat
2. Sandy Loam	Irrigated	Bajra+Lobia	Wheat or Barley
		Maize	Pea
		Bajra+Urd+Arhar	Gram
		Paddy	Potato
			Potato+Wheat
3. Loam	Irrigated	Paddy	Wheat or Barley
		Maize	Gram
	Unirrigated	Maize	Potato Pea or Barley

Two Year Rotational Pattern

Type of Soil	Irrigated/ Unirrigated	First Year		Second Year	
		Kharif	Rabi	Kharif	Rabi
1. Sandy Loam	Irrigated	Bajra + Urd	Arhar	Fallow	Wheat
		Arhar + Jowar	Wheat or Potato	Bajra + Arhar	Arhar
		Bajra + Moong		Paddy	Wheat or Pea
	Unirrigated	Green Manure			
		Bajra + Arhar	Arhar	Fallow	Barley or Gram
2. Loam	Irrigated	Jowar + Moong + Arhar	Arhar	do	Wheat
		Sweet potato	Fallow	do	Gram or Barley
		Bajra + Arhar	Arhar	Maize	Wheat
		Maize	Potato or Wheat	Paddy	do
		Paddy	Wheat or Pea		

Three Year Rotational Pattern

Type of Soil	Irrigated/ Unirrigated	First Year			Second Year			Third Year		
		Kharif	Rabi		Kharif	Rabi		Kharif	Rabi	
1. Sandy Loam	Irrigated	<i>Bajra+Lobiy</i>	Sugar-cane	Sugar-cane	Sugar-cane	Sugar-cane	Sugar-cane	Sugar-cane	Sugar-cane	Sugar-cane
		Maize	Potato		do	do	do	do	do	do
	Unirrigated				do	do	do	do	do	do
		<i>Bajra+Urd</i>	Barley or Pea	Fallow <i>Bajra+Urd</i>	Fallow	Barley	Fallow or Jowar	Fallow or Barley	Fallow or Barley	Sugar-cane
2. Loam	Irrigated	Paddy	Sugar-cane	Sugar-cane	Sugar-cane	Sugar-cane	Sugar-cane	Sugar-cane	Sugar-cane	Sugar-cane
		do	Wheat	do	do	do	do	do	do	do
	Maize	Potato	Potato	Green manure or Vegetables	Maize	Maize	Maize	Maize	Wheat	Wheat

Multiple Cropping

The practice of simultaneously growing more than one crop in a single field in one season gives additional harvest, thus increasing the overall yield and ensuring maximum use of the soil and the nutrients. If there is danger of loss to any crop through adverse weather conditions and pests or insects, there is a chance to save at least the next crop in the field, if the system of multiple cropping is adopted. The sowing of leguminous crops like *moong*, *urd*, and *guar* with cereals provides nitrogenous ingredients to the soil in a perfectly natural state. *Arhar* is always sown with jowar, *urd*, *til* or ground-nut; *bajra* with *urd*, *arhar* or ground-nut; wheat with gram, pea or mustard; barley with gram or pea; maize with *urd*; ground-nut with *guar*; and cotton with *urd*. Potata is generally sown mixed with *methi* (fenugreek) or onion, sugar-cane with *moong*, and the rainy season vegetables and late paddy with *dhania* (coriander) or *methi*.

Agricultural Co-operatives and Joint Farming

The practice of cultivating land jointly (*sajha*) is very old among the farmers. Forests and pasture-lands are still used in common. A number of cultivators often pool their implements, bullocks, and labour for a season or two for growing crops. Costly implements and machines are also sometimes owned or hired jointly and used by rotation.

In the course of development and planning, programmes, co-operative societies have been organised in the villages for farming, distribution of seeds, loans, and fertilizers and agricultural implements, cattle-breeding, supplying milk to big towns, and for marketing of agricultural produce.

In 1972, there were in the district 315 credit societies, 26 seed stores for providing loans and seeds to the cultivators, and 37 farming societies of which 21 were lying defunct. Those which functioned produced agricultural commodities worth Rs 13,18,737. Some details regarding the three marketing societies are given below :

Name and location	Year of establishment	Agricultural produce marketed (in Rs)
Co-operative marketing society, Shamli	1957	17,39,849
Co-operative marketing society, Muzaffarnagar	1958	11,92,997
Co-operative marketing society, Khatauli	1963	7,63,321

Horticulture

At the Settlement of 1842, the grove area in the district was only 2,500 acres. The noticeable increase during the following 50 years has been particularly on account of plantations made by canal authorities along the canal embankments in the district. The following statement gives the figures of grove area under fruits and orchards for a number of years from 1890 to 1973 :

Year	Area (in hectares)
1890	4,249
1923	2,156
1940	3,266
1950	2,509
1968	4,987
1973	4,490

Though mango is the favourite, pomegranate and guava are also frequently grown. A great deal has also been done by way of roadside plantations and there are numerous fine avenues of *shisham*, *jamun*, mango, and *siris*.

The district does not have any government garden or nursery. Its requirements of plants, saplings, and seeds of fruits, vegetables, and flowers are met by the government garden at Saharanpur. There were 10 private nurseries in the district in 1972 which supplied 60,577 plants and seedlings, and 9,678 kg. of seeds of vegetables and flowers.

Agricultural Diseases and Pests

The three main enemies of crops here, as elsewhere, are animals, birds, and insects. A large number of plant diseases, fungi, and weeds also cause damage to plants. Among the animals and birds, monkeys, field rats, squirrels, wild animals like nilgai, jackals, rabbits, etc., and bats and parrots are a menace to them. The usual methods of protection adopted by the cultivators are fencing, keeping watch, or billing. Among insects, leaf-mosaic, rust, smut and termite attack the wheat, barley, and pea crops. Paddy is mostly affected by leaf-mosaic, blight, and the *gundhi* pest. Potatoes and other vegetables are generally damaged by blight, leaf-mosaic, and pink boll-worm. The canker and withertip take heavy tolls of citrus fruits. Mango and guava orchards are the worst sufferers from the die-back, black-tip of mango, damping of seedlings, and withertip. With the recent introduction of modern methods of plant protection, various insecticides and pesticides such as Aldrin, BHC, and DDT are sprayed or dusted over the crops. To save the crops from seed-borne diseases the seeds are dried in the sun and also treated with certain chemicals before sowing.

There are numerous leafy growths such as *bathua*, *kulfa*, and weeds which are harmful to the crops. These are overcome by systematic and timely weeding, interculturing, and deep ploughing of the fields.

The plant protection staff in the district gives free advice to cultivators on raising healthy crops of fruits, vegetables, and cereals, and on taking up timely measures for protection of plants from diseases, pests, etc. They also provide insecticides, spraying and dusting machines, and the services of trained staff at moderate charges. They supplied pesticides worth Rs 2.44 and Rs 5.62 lakhs during 1968-69 and 1969-70 respectively. There were 40 private dealers also in the district in 1970 who sold insecticides and pesticides to the cultivators.

The following statement shows the work done by the plant protection department in 1971-72 :

Programme undertaken	Area covered (in hectares)
Seed treated against seed-borne diseases and sown	66,434
Eradication of rodents	56,660
Spraying of insecticides and pesticides	85,851
Eradication of harmful weeds and other wild growths in the crops	11,100

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FISHERIES

The domestic breeds of the cattle in the district were generally of an inferior stamp till the beginning of the present century. Those of good breed were purchased from the fairs held at Rohtak in Haryana and Batesar in Agra. But subsequently agriculture and animal husbandry programmes caught up with the pace of growth and development in Punjab and Haryana, and in certain cases even surpassed them. The live-stock population of the district in 1966 was as follows :

Live-stock	1966
Cows	83,338
Bulls and bullocks	1,82,193
Female buffaloes	1,31,294
Male buffaloes	44,412
Goats	12,834
Sheep	14,970
Horses and Ponies	7,040
Donkeys	6,502
Camels	1,474
Mules	1,391
Pigs	17,019

Sheep and goats are generally reared by the Gadariyas for their flesh and skins. Goat milk is also in demand. Wool obtained from the sheep is consumed by the local blanket industry. These animals are also penned on land, a considerable sum being realised by the shepherds from the cultivators in return for the manure they provide.

Development of Live-stock

Horse-breeding was a flourishing industry in the district till the beginning of the present century, and was chiefly followed by the Rajputs, Jats, and Gujars. It provided an interesting and remunerative occupation besides being an item of sport to the rural people. In 1901, there were 19 stallions and 554 branded mares in the district for the purpose of breeding fine horses. A largely-attended horse show used to be held annually in March at Muzaffarnagar in which many prizes were awarded. Stud-bred colts and fillies fetched prices ranging from Rs 125 to 400, according to age and quality. In 1901, 1,015 horses participated in the show. The advent of mechanised means of transport has adversely affected the horse-breeding trade in this district also as elsewhere in the State. From 12,000 horses and ponies in the district in 1908-09 the number had come down to only 7,040 in 1966. The government has taken up schemes for the improvement of live-stock in the district under the various Five-year Plans since 1951-52. Artificial insemination centres for cows and buffaloes functioning in the district totalled 39 in 1971, recording 1,59,852 heads inseminated during 1961 to 1971.

The government also provided bulls of Murrah, Haryana, Sindhi, and Sahiwal breeds at nominal rates, for areas not catered for by the artificial insemination centres. Cow bulls numbering 154 and 61 buffalo bulls and 87 cows of improved breeds were distributed in the district between 1961 and 1971.

Stud rams and bucks of the Barbari and Jamunapari breeds are also distributed. During 1961-71 about 175 rams and 49 bucks were provided by the government.

Loan is also given to cultivators for the purchase of cows and buffaloes of improved breed. A sum of Rs 72,000 was distributed through the animal husbandry department in the district during the Third Five-year Plan, and a like amount was distributed during the Fourth Plan period.

Poultry Development

In 1966, there were 68,291 poultry birds in the district, of which 65,927 were hens and cocks, 669 ducks and drakes, and 1,695 were other birds. To encourage poultry-farming as a subsidiary industry in the rural areas, the government also arranges supply of birds of improved breeds. About 13,395 fowls were distributed in 1971.

Cattle Diseases and Treatment

The common cattle diseases are rinderpest (Ponkini or Mata), malignant sore throat (Galaghontu), black-quarter (Padsuja), anthrax (Tilsuja), dysentery (Pechis), and foot-and-mouth disease (Mokhur or Khurpaka). Old superstitions and taboos are still prevalent among the villagers, because of which they are reluctant to use modern medicines and methods of treatment for the prevention and cure of animal diseases. However, they are changing their views now after the opening of veterinary hospitals and stockman centres in the district, as also after practical demonstrations and publicity carried out by the animal husbandry department, and have begun getting convinced of the efficacy and scientific nature of the treatment provided.

The district live-stock officer is in charge of animal husbandry work in the district. Another officer looks after artificial insemination centres. There were 16 veterinary hospitals and 26 stockman centres in the district in 1971. The statement below gives the number of cattle treated, vaccinated, and castrated in the district during the Third Five-year Plan period and from 1966-67 to 1970-71 :

No. of cattle	1961-66	1966-67 to 1970-71
	Third Plan	
Treated	3,56,192	5,18,583
Vaccinated	7,22,575	10,45,136
Castrated	35,482	61,328

Housing and Feeding

Domestic animals are generally housed in thatched cattle-sheds. Pakka well-ventilated byres with roofs of iron or asbestos sheets are provided only by the government or the well-to-do farmers. Community cattle-sheds in the villages, are not yet popular, although government gives grant therefor.

Grazing facilities are provided by Gaon Sabhas or the forest department in areas under their respective controls. Owners allow grazing in their groves and harvested or fallow fields. On the canal banks and on either side of the railways, cattle are allowed to graze under stipulated conditions. In 1970-71 the total area covered by grazing grounds was 1,174 hectares. Waste lands, forests, fallows, and other barren and unculturable land, which also serve as pasture, measured 47,511 hectares.

Maize, jowar, *bajra*, *barseem*, and *lobia* also provide fodder for the cattle. The husk and dried and crushed stalks of wheat, barley, *arhar*, *urd*, *moong*, pea, gram, and paddy are generally used as feed. The seed stores of the agriculture and co-operative departments provide to the cultivators seeds of nutritious fodder crops. The area covered by the fodder crops in the district in 1970-71 was 32,715 hectares.

FISHERIES

The rivers, canals and lakes in the district abound in fish, Ganga, Yamuna and Hindan being the chief repositories. The most common varieties are *rohu*, *nain*, *bhakur*, *karaunch*, *mahaseer*, *chilwa*, *goonch*, *saul*, *mola*, *anwari*, *bata*, *tengra*, and those belonging to the carp family. There were 180 fishing nets and tackles in the district recorded at the live-stock census of 1966.

The government has taken up a few schemes for the development of fisheries in the district. Under the 'small-water scheme' started here in 1963-64, tanks and ponds are developed and fingerlings supplied to private pisciculturists, *gaon* panchayats, and other institutions at concessional rates. Up to the end of 1971 nearly 10,65,711 fingerlings were supplied for rearing in big and small reservoirs covering 216 hectares of area.

The government fish nursery at Muzaffarnagar supplies fingerlings to fish-breeders and sells grown up fish in the market. During 1971-72, 81,000 fingerlings were supplied and about 118 kg. of fish were sold.

FORESTRY

There was not much forest area left in this district in 1840, the total being 1,012 hectares with most of the jungle lying in the north-western corner of the district and covered by *dhak*. The following fifty years or so saw gradual expansion of forests, mainly through the efforts of zamindars and departmental plantations along roads and canals. The total area of forest under the management of forest department of the State, was 5,382.3 hectares in 1971, including the waste lands and afforestations and plantations along the canals and the roads.

Groves, and clusters of trees, usually classed as civil forests, are under the control of the district magistrate and managed by Gaon Sabhas. Such land measured 4,821 hectares in 1971.

Common trees are the *amaltas*, *ashok*, mango, guava, *aonla*, babul, banyan, *bel*, *dhak*, *gular*, tamarind, *jamun*, *khair*, *khajoor*, neem, *pakar*, *peepul*, *siris*, *sisham*, and *ber*.

NATURAL CALAMITIES

No regular account of famines that might have afflicted the people of this district, prior to the 18th century, exists. It is however, known from historical records that famine and scarcity conditions prevailed during the years 1291, 1424, 1471, 1631, and 1661 A. D. in the doab, of which Muzaffarnagar was also a part.

The great *chalisa* famine of 1784 did not bring as much misery to the people of this district as to the inhabitants of the lower doab. In 1803, the first year of British occupation, there was scarcity here because of the failure of spring crops through hailstorm, and of poor productivity in the subsequent season occasioned by erratic monsoon. The drought of 1824 was felt with less severity in this region.

In 1837 the rains failed completely and a large proportion of land was described in the settlement records of 1840 as "recently abandoned." Though precipitation in the beginning of February 1838 had reduced the famine area, the district as a whole suffered greatly, accounting for a remission in land revenue to the extent of Rs 39,286. Thereafter the district enjoyed comparative freedom from scarcity till 1860, when work on the Anupshahr canal was undertaken as a famine relief work. The condition was not so acute here as in other parts of the doab, presumably because of extensive facility for irrigation provided by canals. During January 1861, a meagre amount of Rs 283 was spent on outdoor relief to 3,182 persons and a sum of Rs 25,000 was advanced for purchasing stock and seed. There were hardly any rains in the district from the end of July 1868 to February 1869. The crops failed in the unirrigated portion of the upland, and the irrigable areas alone were sown for Rabi which yielded such a rich harvest that at the close of 1868 there was plenty of grain for storage. Among the important famine relief works were the Shamli and Muzaffarnagar roads, and a segment of the Deoband (in Saharanpur) Bijnor road passing through Muzaffarnagar. Also during the last three months of 1868, influx of immigrants from Rajasthan, where severer conditions of scarcity prevailed, aggravated the situation here. Between December 1868 and October 1869, 195 persons on an average were employed daily on relief works in this district at a cost of Rs 6,583.

The next eight were normal years of productivity. In 1877, 1896, and 1900, despite the appearance of distress in many parts of the doab, it was not considered necessary to open relief works in this district. From then onwards the district has not faced any famine.

Floods

In years of heavy rainfall, sweeping waters of the Ganga and the Yamuna, as also of other smaller rivers, cause damage to crops in the district. Even in normal rainfall years, the *khadir* areas of the Ganga on the eastern, and of the Yamuna on the western border, remain submerged during most of the monsoon months. This annual flooding besides destroying the rodents, deposits rich silt on the land, the process being conducive to agriculture in this tract.

There was a high flood in the Ganga in 1880. Again in 1894, heavy rains and the bursting of the Gohana lake in the Garhwal mountains caused abnormal floods in the Ganga. Heavy floods again occurred in 1923 and 1924, when all the rivers in the district were in spate. The damage caused by the waters of the Yamuna was more extensive. The calamity was followed by hailstorms in 1925-26 which impaired the standing crops.

The years from 1928 to 1931 faced a dry spell, accentuated by an invasion of locust swarms in certain parts of the district in 1929 and 1930. In 1928 the district witnessed one of the most devastating black wind storms with huge losses, particularly to occupiers of thatched houses in rural areas.

In 1947-48 there was a heavy flood again in the Ganga, creating havoc in the riparian areas. The Yamuna rose in 1950-51 and caused considerable damage. In 1959 there was a serious flood in the Kirsani affecting the areas in its neighbourhood.

In 1968-69, the slight rise in the level of the Ganga did not cause any serious damage. However, 3,785 hectares of crops were also affected adversely by hailstorms in Budhana and Jansath tahsils in that year, and necessitated remissions of Rs 28,742 in land revenue. The Ganga and other rivers were in spate in 1969-70, inundating an area of 980 hectares in Muzaffarnagar tahsil. Nearly 6,994 hectares of cropped area was damaged by hailstorms in Budhana tahsil in the same year, involving a remission of Rs 33,262 in land revenue. In 1970-71, floods caused damage to a total crop area of 4,530 hectares in Muzaffarnagar tahsil and land revenue amounting to Rs 18,220 was remitted. Floods brought extensive damage to crops and houses in 1971-72. All the rivers were in spate and a sown area of 16,956 hectares was worst affected in Muzaffarnagar, Jansath, and Kairana tahsils. Relief in the shape of gratuitous relief and house subsidy was provided to flood victims, entailing a total expenditure of Rs 13,31,748 in the three tahsils. Land revenue amounting to Rs 42,575 was also remitted.

CHAPTER V

INDUSTRIES

Old-time Industries

While most of the people of Muzaffarnagar have depended largely upon land for their livelihood, a sizable number have also thriven on various cottage industries and handicrafts from early times. Industrially, this district has been one of the most progressive areas in the State. For want of information regarding the development of such vocations and the level of excellence achieved therein, it is not possible to indicate the antiquity of their existence even in the medieval times. It is, however, likely that during the peaceful Mughal period these industries and handicrafts had prospered in whatever form they existed, receiving considerable encouragement from the local patrons as well as the imperial court at Delhi.

Of the old-time industries and manufactures, the hand-spun and hand-woven wollen blanket industry still survives, affording employment in various branches. This trade was carried on mainly at Miranpur, Gangeru, Lank, Purqazi, and Morna. The carding and teasing of wool, which was imported from Punjab, was done by Musalman *dhunias*. In the olden days, wool was dyed with the help of vegetable matter locally found in abundance. Dark colours like brown, black, and red are still prepared from that matter.

The papier-mache industry is also a small cottage industry of the past. This art was adopted by only a few craftsmen in the district, and at Miranpur who produced fine articles such as small boxes, ink-stands and cigar cases. A few artisans in the district wove ornamental cloth curtains decorated with glass beads and tinsels which, although very beautiful, were not durable.

Although the dyeing industry had been decaying, calico-printing was carried on at a large number of centres in the district and existed on a fair scale in the town of Kairana. It was much appreciated all over India because of the beautiful patterns brought out by block printing.

Miranpur was noted for its pottery, having a coarse blue faience, although it was inferior to that produced at Bulandshahr or at Bahadurgarh in Meerut.

Power

Electricity was introduced into the district in 1928-29. The process of rural electrification began with the electrification of three villages in 1931. The progress remained somewhat slow up to 1960 as only 17 villages got electricity till then. Electricity, in 1961, was used in only 142 rural and 193 urban establishments, indicating the small extent of power being used in the industries

in the district. 78.3 per cent industrial undertakings in the rural, and 51.4 per cent in the urban areas were run without power. However, it recorded a rapid increase during the next decade and 446 villages received power supply by the end of 1970, providing per capita consumption of 44.7 kw. The district obtains its electric supply from Mirganj power house, situated at a distance of about 15 km. from Muzaffarnagar town. It is connected with the main U.P. Grid under the management of the U.P. State electricity board. In 1969, the number of connections given to industrial units was only 536, which rose to 1,245 in 1972. Industry and agriculture in the district owe their development and growth largely to cheap and uninterrupted supply of electric power. The establishment of small-scale and large-scale industrial undertakings in the district could be possible only because of power supply. The total consumption of electricity on industrial undertakings amounted to 42,01,866 units in 1972.

Even this much of power supply falls short of the required quantity to feed every industrial concern, and demand for further supply is constantly mounting.

Large-scale Industries

There are eight large-scale units in the district manufacturing sugar, condensed milk, liquor, and a special alloy of steel used in the manufacture of auto-leaf spring and watches, etc. In 1971-72 the total investment in these units amounted to Rs 1,202.41 lakhs. Their output valued nearly Rs 2,188.92 lakhs and they employed 6,730 workers.

Sugar—During the early thirties of the present century, manufacture of refined sugar was started in four units, viz., Sir Shadi Lal Sugar and General Mills (Ltd), Mansurpur, the Upper Doab Sugar and General Mills (Ltd), Shamli, the Upper India Sugar Mills (Ltd), Khatauli, and the Amritsar Sugar Mills (Ltd), Bohana Kalan. Bagasse and molasses, the by-products of this industry, are used for the manufacture of paper and alcohol respectively. During 1971-72, the total investment in these units amounted to Rs 850 lakhs, their turn-over was worth Rs 1,950 lakhs, and they employed 5,000 persons.

Condensed Milk—The Indian Milk Products, Ltd., Muzaffarnagar, was established in 1962. This unit manufactured condensed milk and ghee. It commenced with a production capacity of 6,000 litres of condensed milk per day, but because of a rich market its production steadily increased, rising up to 30,000 litres per day in 1971-72. Its total investment and the total turn-over amounted to Rs 70 lakhs and Rs 70.92 lakhs respectively, and its employed 150 persons. Besides meeting the local needs, a large quantity of milk is also exported by it to other places and organisations in the country, including defence. A scheme to raise further the capacity of the plant is underway, and it is soon expected to be in operation, yielding increased production as well as some more dairy products.

Rectified Spirit—Two units, one each at Shamli and Mansoorpur are engaged in manufacturing rectified spirit and spirituous drugs. Molasses, used as a raw material, is procured mainly from the local sugar mills. In 1971-72 the investment in these units was Rs 82.41 lakhs while their total output was worth Rs 98 lakhs, and 180 persons were employed by them. The articles produced have a local market besides being exported to other parts of the country.

Steel Casting—The Uttar Pradesh Steel Co. (Ltd), was established in 1962 in technical collaboration with M/s. Kobe Steel Ltd, a leading manufacturer of steel casting in Japan. In November 1964, it was converted into a Public Ltd, Company. This unit mainly works as a steel casting foundry where melting of steel is done by electric arcs and induction furnaces. The molten steel is then poured into moulds. The surplus metal is used generally for making steel ingots. The company also manufactures a special alloy of steel which is suitable for use in the manufacture of auto-leaf springs, watches, ball bearings, acid containers, and magnets. The iron scrap is available locally, but graphite, and carbon electrodes are imported from outside. The casting capacity of the unit is 5,000 tonnes of steel per annum. In 1971-72, the total investment in this unit amounted to Rs 1.72 crores and it produced goods worth Rs 1.40 crores, employing 450 persons. With a view to promoting large-scale export of cast steel to Bulgaria, one more 3 tonnes induction furnace is shortly to be installed at this unit to boost production.

Two more steel casting units are in the process of construction and are expected to start production very shortly.

Small-scale Industries

The directorate of industries, U. P. had registered 230 units of small-scale industries in the district in 1971-72. Some of the important industries are described below:

Agricultural Implements—The district has at present 72 units manufacturing agricultural implements such as threshers, disc harrows, ploughs, Persian wheels, and small machines used in irrigation. During 1971-72, the total investment in these units amounted to Rs 70 lakhs, their output was worth Rs 55 lakhs, and they employed 600 persons. Except those having small holdings, the farmers have adopted modern techniques of cultivation and employ new implements. The growing demand for new and mechanised implements warrants expansion of this industry in the district. There is scope particularly for the manufacture of power threshers and seed drills.

Sugar-cane Crushers—The manufacture of sugar-cane crushers has been taken up by 15 units with an investment of Rs 53.3 lakhs and a calculated annual production worth Rs 14.10 lakhs during 1971-72. These units employed 160 persons. Somehow they could not reach the target, possibly through keen competition among themselves. Some of them have taken up the manufacture of hydraulic cane-crushers.

Khandsari—There are about 500 units, scattered all over the district, manufacturing *khandsari*. It is an old-time industry which has survived the vicissitudes of time. In 1971-72, the total investment in these units was Rs 250 lakhs, while they produced *khandsari* worth Rs 500 lakhs and employed 15,000 persons. This is a seasonal industry beginning in September and sometimes continuing until the close of April. These units also employ cane-crushers for extraction of juice from sugar-cane. If the ordinary crushers are replaced by hydraulic ones the extraction, which is 65 per cent at present, is likely to become 75 per cent.

Axles and Rims—There are 35 units manufacturing axles, rims, etc., the majority of them being located at Shamli. Products of these units also find a ready market in the neighbouring districts. In 1971-72, an investment of Rs 17.5 lakhs was made in them, while their total turn-over was worth Rs 35 lakhs and 350 persons were employed by them.

Re-rolling Mills—In 1971-72, 13 re-rolling mills worked mainly in Muzaffarnagar town, on a fixed investment of Rs 50 lakhs, yielding iron bars worth Rs 260 lakhs, and employing 390 workers. The existing units mostly import scrap iron from Delhi for their raw material.

Steel Furniture—Steel almirahs, safe, and other articles of furniture are produced in 6 units, of which 5 are located at Muzaffarnagar and one at Shamli. A sum of Rs 3 lakhs was invested in them and goods worth Rs 6 lakhs were produced in 1970-71. They employed only 80 persons.

Rolling Shutters—Three units at Muzaffarnagar are producing rolling shutters. The demand for shutters has considerably increased because of modernisation of shops and provision of garages in the new offices and residential buildings. The installed annual production capacity of these units is worth Rs 6.60 lakhs. The industry has scope for further expansion in the district.

Aluminium Utensils—Aluminium and brass utensils are produced in 12 units; most of which are in Shamli. With a total investment of Rs 16 lakhs in 1971-72, these units produced utensils worth Rs 30 lakhs, providing employment to 140 persons.

Centrifugal Pumps—In 1971-72, eight units were engaged in the manufacture of centrifugal pumps at Muzaffarnagar proper, with the total investment and output both amounting to Rs 4 lakhs, and they were being manned by 70 persons. The department of industries of the Government of Uttar Pradesh is giving all possible assistance and encouragement to this industry to boost the quantity as well as the quality of production. The prospects of this industry in the district are encouraging.

Chaff Cutter Blades—The manufacture of chaff cutter blades is done in eight units, all located at Muzaffarnagar. In 1971, a sum of Rs 75,000 was invested in these units, and they produced goods worth Rs 1.7 lakhs, providing employment to 30 persons.

The chaff cutter blades manufactured here are gaining good market in the neighbouring districts.

Soap—Washing soaps of various kinds are produced by 8 units in the district. Rs 20,000 was invested in them and they yielded a net output of Rs 3 lakhs in 1971. As raw materials for this industry, oil is available locally but caustic soda has to be imported. The soaps produced are consumed locally.

Bone Crushing—Three units, two at Khatauli and one at Shamli, are engaged in this work. In 1971, the total investment in these units was Rs 10.6 lakhs, while their turnover was worth Rs 11.25 lakhs and they employed 100 persons. Bones are locally available but a small quantity is imported from the neighbouring districts.

Hypodermic Glass Syringes—Glass syringes are manufactured at three units, of which two are at Muzaffarnagar and one at Shamli. A total of Rs 5.4 lakhs was invested in these units in 1971, and they produced syringes worth Rs 3 lakhs while employing 100 persons. The bulk of this production is sold outside the State. Glass tubes are available locally.

Cold Storage—Cold storage facilities for the preservation of food, particularly vegetables and fruits such as mangoes, potatoes and onions, etc., are provided at 6 units in the district. In 1972, these units invested a sum of Rs 12 lakhs and carried out business of over Rs 12 lakhs.

Miniature Bulbs and Other Electrical Appliances—There are three units in the district manufacturing miniature bulbs, room heaters and table lamps, etc. These units invested Rs 1.5 lakhs and employed 50 persons in 1971, with the total production of the value of Rs 3.5 lakhs. The products which are exported to other States also have no marketing problem.

Tube-well Parts—Three units are producing reflex valves, strainers, and sluice valves. In 1971, the total investment and turn-over of this industry were Rs 98,000 and Rs 2.5 lakhs respectively, and fifty persons were employed by them. The future prospects of this industry in the district are encouraging.

Sugar Mill Machinery Parts—Three units, two at Khatauli and one at Muzaffarnagar, are engaged in the manufacture of centrifugal sugar-cane unloader, cane carried chains, sulphitation units, etc. The total outlay on this industry amounted to Rs 8.7 lakhs in 1971, giving a net output worth Rs 25 lakhs. A large portion of the products is exported to other States as well.

Paints and Varnishes—With a total investment of Rs 60,000, two units are engaged in the manufacture of stiff paints, varnish, and cement colours. This industry has only local significance. It employed 18 persons and produced goods worth Rs 3.2 lakhs in 1971.

Electric Motors—One unit at Shamli is engaged in manufacturing 1 H. P. to 20 H. P. electric motors. The unit invested Rs 1 lakhs with a turn-over worth Rs 60,000, employing 9 persons in 1971. The industries department of the State is assisting this unit with indigenous and imported raw material like copper wire and ball bearings, etc.

Steel-Backed Bronze Metal Bearings—There is one unit at Shamli, with a total initial investment of Rs 68,000, engaged in the manufacture of bearings used in tractors and motors, etc. The industries department is supplying a considerable quantity of copper, tin, and zinc to this unit which has a capacity to produce bearings worth Rs 1.25 lakhs per annum. It employed 7 persons in 1971.

Welded Link Chains—One unit, with a total investment of Rs 3.95 lakhs, is manufacturing welded link chains which are used for pulleys. Mild steel wire for raw material is supplied by the industries department. During 1971 the unit manufactured chains worth Rs 2 lakhs and employed 9 persons.

High Carbon Steel Sheets—One unit at Shahpur is manufacturing from steel scrap high carbon steel sheets, generally used in the manufacture of discs for harrows. The unit's installed production capacity is one tonne of sheets daily.

Mill Board—One unit at village Vehlara near Muzaffarnagar, is manufacturing mill boards. Waste paper, the raw material, is imported from Delhi. The unit made a total investment of Rs 1.25 lakhs in 1971-72, and produced goods worth Rs 1 lakhs, employing 15 persons.

General Engineering—Repair and overhauling of machines with modern tools are undertaken at 23 units in the district. Their standard of performance is high. These units executed business worth Rs 2.25 lakhs against a total investment of Rs 3.62 lakhs in 1971-72. They employed 82 persons.

Radio and Transistor-sets—Radio and transistor-sets are assembled with some foreign components at 9 units in the district. A sum of Rs 87,000 was invested in these units and sets worth Rs 73,000 were sold in 1971. This industry employs 19 persons.

Printing Work—There are three printing-presses functioning in the district with a total investment of Rs 1.40 lakhs. Business worth Rs 50,000 was done by them in 1971 and they employed 24 persons.

Optical Glasses—Optical glasses are manufactured by three units in the district. A sum of Rs 56,000 was invested in these units in 1971 with a net production of Rs 60,000, and they employed 6 persons.

Ice and Ice-cream Candy—Ice and ice-cream candy are produced at four units in the district. An amount of Rs 1.68 lakhs was

invested in them in 1971, and candy worth Rs 1.71 lakhs was produced, employing 25 hands. This industry is seasonal, doing business generally between March and October, and has a local market.

Village and Cottage Industries

There are a number of old and flourishing cottage industries in the district. Some of them have switched over to modern techniques of production. These industries are assisted by various organisations, but mainly by the Khadi and village industries board. The following are some important cottage industries in the district.

Gur—Gur making is one of the old-time industries of the district. There were 4,000 units with production worth Rs 10 crores in 1971. It employs a large number of people, the number being 30,000 in 1971. This district is one of the most important *gur* mandies of the State and exports a large quantity to other states.

Woollen-Blanket—Blanket weaving is almost as old and important a cottage industry in the district as the preceding one, concentrated mainly at Miranpur, Shahpur, Gangeru, and Morna. About 600 shuttle-handlooms are engaged in the production of blankets yielding an estimated yearly production worth about Rs 85 lakhs. Wool, the main raw material, is imported mainly from Rajasthan, Punjab, and Gujarat. This industry provides part-time job of spinning yarn to over 3,000 women. Only hand-spun yarn is used for blanket weaving. The blankets are not of a fine quality. Some of the dealers have now started sending them to Panipat and Amritsar for a better finish. The State Government has also started a Quality-Marking Depot at Muzaffarnagar, to assist the manufacturers in improving quality of goods. Blankets are also produced in a factory, run by the Khadi and village industries board at Muzaffarnagar. It has a total production capacity of 36,000 blankets per annum, which are usually supplied to hospitals. The total production of blankets in the district numbered 5 lakhs, costing no fewer than Rs 85 lakhs in 1971-72.

Hand-loom Cloth—The next old and significant cottage industry is weaving of cloth on hand-loom. It is flourishing still at Muzaffarnagar, Budhana, Charthawal, Shahpur, Kairana, Lisar, Baghra, Bhopa, Khatauli, and Jansath. At present 6,198 handlooms are manufacturing *garha* and bedsheets. The old pitloom fly shuttle has been replaced by frame looms. The machine-made cloth had a very damaging effect on this industry, which has been on a decline since the second quarter of the present century. The weavers' co-operative societies and Quality-Marking Depot, working under the aegis of the State Government, have been making efforts to check this trend. Still this industry employs no fewer than 15,000 persons, producing goods worth Rs 45 lakhs annually.

Brass Utensils—About 40 units, mostly located at Shamli, manufacture brass utensils, having a production of about Rs 5 lakhs

per annum against a total investment of Rs 60,000. Copper, lead and zinc, the raw material for this industry, are supplied by recognised importers. The workers of this industry, numbering about 500, have formed a consumer industrial co-operative society of their own.

Printing and Dyeing—There are about 50 units engaged in printing and dyeing of cloth, particularly bed-sheets and quilt-covers (*rajai fard*). Although a prosperous industry earlier, it is not in a very flourishing state now. Its annual production amounts to Rs 2.5 lakhs. Gum and colours, the necessary ingredients, are available in the district itself, only sometimes a small quantity is procured from outside.

Pottery—Pottery, perhaps the oldest industry of the district, still contributes substantially to the economic life of the people. Besides earthen wares and tiles, the potters usually concentrate on the statues of gods and goddesses, particularly of Ganesh, Laxmi, Siva, Durga, and Sarswati. These products have a rich market during fairs and festivals. Smooth black clay, commonly used for pottery is plentiful in local tanks. However, the industry is presently not very prosperous. It apparently needs enough incentive and encouragement to the workers.

Carpentry—About 1,500 odd carpenters manufacture *farmes* for doors, windows and beds, wheels for carts, ploughs, and rough furniture in the district. Babul and sissoo woods, which are available locally, are used as raw material. In the urban areas, timber merchants operate saw-mills and engage skilled carpenters to manufacture sophisticated items of furniture.

Shoe-making—Shoe-making still in the hands of traditional shoe-makers, is also an ancient industry. The *desi* shoes are made from all kinds of leather. More than 1,000 units engaging over 3,000 persons, mostly located at Muzaffarnagar, Shahpur, Budhana, Gangoh, Shamli, Kairana, Thanabhawan, Khatauli, Miranpur, and Jansath pursue this profession. The total investment in this industry was Rs 1,75,300 with an output of Rs 10,00,000 in 1972.

Industrial Estates

At the end of the Second Five-year Plan, fresh provision for the development of some industries in the district was made, and a scheme was chalked out for setting up workshops having accommodation, electric power, and water storage facilities. The estates that emerged in consequence are described below.

Harijan Industrial Estate Muzaffarnagar—This was established in 1963 by the Harijan and social welfare department, and later handed over to the directorate of industries, U. P. It started with 12 sheds and 22 plots for Harijans, but as no Harijan offered to set up any industry, it has been unreserved. Three sheds are being used for the manufacture of wire-mesh, fencing-mesh and chaff-cutter-blades.

Developed Industrial Estate Muzaffarnagar—This was established in 1964 with 46 plots. The number has increased to 57 but only 7 units are functioning on 11 plots. In this estate aluminium utensils, plastic articles, mixed fertilizers, straw boards, pesticides, and agricultural implements are manufactured. Both these estates will be fully developed by 1976 or so.

State Aid

The directorate of industries, under the State Aid to Industries Act, has been disbursing loans to various industrial undertakings through the agency of the U. P. financial corporation, Kanpur. An amount of Rs 50,05,000 was distributed in the district in 1971-72.

The national small industries corporation, New Delhi, also provides machinery to small-scale industries on a hire-purchase basis while the U. P. small industries corporation, Kanpur, advances loan for the purchase of machinery.

Potential and Plants for Future Development

With the introduction of improved agricultural implements and techniques the economic status of the people has risen considerably, providing the district with a sound base for industrial development. To meet the increasing demand for agricultural implements, a number of production units have been set up in the district, but still the rate of supply is far less than the demand. There is, thus, a wide scope for expansion of this industry to meet even the local needs.

The demand for cycles and their spare parts has recorded a considerable increase in recent years and the district has the capacity to increase the production of these items. As stated earlier, the district has a fairly broad industrial base, having large-scale as well as a cross-section of small-scale industries. The four existing sugar mills do not utilise all the sugar-cane available in the district, thus warranting the installation of more mills. There is also a good scope for the opening of ancillary units to feed the different large-scale units functioning in the district. For instance, a paper mill can be easily set-up to utilise the bagasse readily available from the four sugar mills. Manufacture of iron foundry, engineering articles, machine tools, and cement pipes can be expanded, as the demand for such goods is not fully met by the present production. New units for the manufacture of asbestos sheets, scientific instruments, aluminium conductors, and modern wooden furniture can also well be started to meet their increasing demand. There is scope for a few more cold storages. The old cottage industries consisting mainly of woollen blankets, hand-loom cloth, and pottery need serious attention and efforts in order to revive them with good results.

Labour Organisation

There were 37 trade unions registered in the district in 1971 with a total membership of about 8,000 workers. The Mansurpur

Mazdoor Union Congress, in the Shadilal Sugar and General Mills, Ltd., Mansurpur, had the largest enrolment with 1,362 members, followed by Chini Mill Mazdoor Union, Shamli, with a membership of 1,058. The main objects of these unions are to ensure fair wages, good living and working condition, proper medical and educational facilities, etc., for labourers. They also help in promoting a healthy relationship between the employer and the employee.

The district has only one labour welfare centre at Shamli. The centre provides medical, educational, cultural, recreational, and sport facilities to members of the trade unions.

Labour Welfare—The Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, the Employment of Children Act, 1936, the U. P. Maternity Benefit Act, 1938, the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Employees State Insurance Act, 1948, the U. P. Industrial Establishments (National Holidays) Act, 1961, and the Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961, are in force in this district. In 1972 there were 2 labour inspectors in the district for ensuring the enforcement of labour laws, advancing labour welfare schemes, and for maintaining liaison between the employees and the employers.

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CHAPTER VI

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

History of Banking

The region covered by the district has always been very fertile. Because of rich harvests it has developed into a flourishing grain market, commercial deals having been transacted for centuries through *hundis*, a type of bill of exchange. There is no historical account of indigenous banking but it is certain that *hundis*, usually in the form of letters of credit, were in use as early as the twelfth century A. D. Muslim historians speak of the existence of Multanis and Shroffs, who financed internal as well as external trade and commerce and also worked as bankers for the ruling dynasties. These bankers undertook money-changing also when a large number of mints issued metallic currency of various denominations. Sometimes, they also worked as revenue collectors and money-changers for the government. The business done by these bankers was prosperous and could be compared to contemporary private banking houses of other countries. These bankers concerned themselves with the granting of credit to agriculturists and artisans and the financing of the trade of the district.

The rate of interest varied widely according to the type of transaction. It was much higher in the case of small advances running for short periods than in that of large loans of longer durations.

Towards the closing years of the last and in the beginning of the present century, the rate of interest in the district was practically the same as that in the neighbouring districts. It was, however, never less than 24 per cent. Advances were generally made to the agriculturists in cash or in the form of seeds. The loans lasted for long periods and ordinarily the rate of interest was calculated monthly. Excessive rate of interest was charged by the small money-lenders. There was a proverb current in the district to the effect that cultivation was generally synonymous with indebtedness, the origin of it being that almost every cultivator, except a Jat, had to borrow money to stock his farm.

The money-lenders in this district were mainly Bohras, who had a habit of adding on 25 per cent at the commencement of each transaction. In the urban areas, credit agencies were manned by the *suhkar* i.e. banker and money-lender, and the *arhatia* i.e. the whole-sale commission agent. In the rural areas, the credit agencies were zamindars and Banias. The recovery of loans was usually made in instalments.

The Allahabad Bank, was the first to open a branch in the district in 1865, followed by a branch of the Imperial Bank of India, now the State Bank, in 1925. In subsequent years the District Co-operative Bank, the Punjab National Bank, and the State Bank of

Bikaner also opened their branches in 1927, 1940, and 1947 respectively. At present there are 46 branches of different banks functioning in the district.

Rural Indebtedness

Indebtedness has long been an important element in the economic life of the people of the district. The farmers generally resorted to usufructuary mortgage of land to get loan from the *sahukars*. But they could seldom redeem it. In the days of depression, the cultivators hardly borrowed money for productive purposes. They did so only on the occasion of religious and social ceremonies, or for litigation or repayment of old debts.

During the First World War, there was an unprecedented rise in the prices of food-grains which gave appreciable returns to the cultivators in terms of money, though this advantage was neutralised by the higher prices that they had to pay for other necessities of life, including clothes, agricultural implements, live-stock, etc. Nevertheless, they managed to repay some of their old debts. This was, however, a temporary boon and things went the worst way during the slump of 1923-38, when rural indebtedness assumed alarming proportions and the government had to come down on the money-lenders with such legislations as U. P. Debt Redemption Act, U. P. Agriculturists Relief Act, and U. P. Encumbered Estates Act, which were all passed before 1938.

Since the commencement of the Second World War in 1939, rural indebtedness has been gradually decreasing in the district as is evident from the fact that the fields which formerly stood mortgaged had been redeemed even before the abolition of Zamindari in the State. The proportion of farmers who are not indebted has increased owing to successive good harvests and unprecedented increase in the price of the food-grains. Though there has been no survey in the district in recent years, it is certain that the average income of the cultivator has greatly increased and he is economically much better off. There is, however, a small section of the people consisting mainly of the agricultural and landless labour which is still in debt.

Urban Indebtedness

Indebtedness in the urban areas is generally confined to the people of lower income group, such as office and factory workers, etc., who borrow money to meet social and traditional obligations. For loans above a hundred rupees, pawning of valuables is resorted to and, depending on the need for credit, even very costly articles are pawned for meagre sums. The salaried class generally purchase even their rations and other necessities of daily life on monthly credit. Enhanced prices are charged by the shop-keepers allowing supply on credit and often the debt accumulates.

Debt Relief Legislation

The Usurious Loans Act, 1918, was the first measure to reduce indebtedness, and its amendment in 1926 enabled either party to

seek relief from mortgages. It authorised courts to investigate an 'unfair' transaction and to relieve the debtors of all liabilities in respect of any 'excessive' interest. The Act, however, did not define the terms 'excessive' and 'unfair' and so proved ineffectual. The economic depression of 1930 led the government to appoint the Agriculture Debt Enquiry Committee in 1932. On the recommendations of this committee several laws were enacted to protect the indebted cultivators. The government also provided relief by suspending operation of normal legal processes for the recovery of debts. In 1934 it enacted the United Provinces Agriculturists Relief Act, which provided for fixation of instalments for repayment of debts and for low rates of interest. The enforcement of the Execution of Decrees Act, 1937, being temporarily postponed, the execution proceedings against tenants and payees of land revenue not exceeding Rs 1,000.00 were unconditionally stayed. The United Provinces Debt Redemption Act, 1940, and the United Provinces Regulation of Agricultural Credit Act, 1940, provided further protection and relief to the debtors. The former provided for an accounting of interest at low rates in the determination of the amount due and for preventing any large-scale liquidation of the property of the debtors, with a view to prevent excessive borrowing. Not more than one-third of the agricultural produce of a debtor was liable to attachment in the execution of a decree.

Role of Private Money-lenders and Financiers

Local money-lenders, traders, and commission agents are still engaged in money-lending business. They are mainly concentrated in Jansath and Kairana tahsils and advance money against pronotes or pawned property, including ornaments. Now the nationalised commercial banks have started providing loans to agriculturists, but the small farmers and artisans still go to private money-lenders. Even those who take loans from the banks for a particular crop, because of the shortage of funds at harvest time, seek help from the private money-lenders. Thus the cultivator falls into a vicious circle and is not able to come out of the grip of the money-lenders easily. Sometimes some firms also advance loans under the *ugahi* system, recovering Rs 12 for Rs 10. Such loans are given for short periods like a month or half a month. The rate of interest charged by private money-lenders generally varies between 25 per cent and 75 per cent annually. Licensing has been enforced now and the highest rate of interest has been fixed at 18 per cent under the U. P. Money-lenders Act of 1974. However, private money-lending business is still continuing in the district.

Government Loans

It has been considered the duty of the State to assist the agriculturists in the event of natural calamities like famine, fire, flood, etc. Accordingly the British government had enacted the Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883 (Act XII of 1883), and the Agriculturist Loans Act, 1884 (Act XI of 1884), on the recommendations

of the Famine Commission of 1880. These two are still in operation. They provide for *taqavi* to the cultivators for the improvement of land, purchase of bullocks, seeds and fertilizers digging of wells, and minor irrigation works, etc. In emergent situations or occurrence of natural calamities, the government also grants partial or total remission or suspension of land revenue along with gratuitous relief. This saves the agriculturists from the clutches of money-lenders and helps to rehabilitate them. The amount of *taqavi* distributed in the district in 1971-72 and 1972-73 was Rs 1,85,000 and Rs 2,15,000 respectively.

Co-operative Movement

To end private money-lending, co-operative credit was introduced into the district in the year 1918, with the establishment of four credit co-operative societies which were named Village Banks. Till 1947, their growth had been slow because of non-encouragement from the government. Thereafter, the co-operative movement as a whole received great support from the popular government. Not only did the number of societies increase, but their objectives became broad-based. The programme was then looked after by the rural development department. The co-operative movement was shifted to the planning and development department in the year 1952.

On the recommendations of the All India Rural Credit Survey Report, 1951-52, the co-operative societies were reorganized in 1961. Bigger multipurpose societies were constituted in place of smaller ones. Thus their total number came up to 315 with a membership of 1,13,433 persons in 1970, as against 453 with a membership of 47,298 in 1960. In 1972 the number of societies remained the same but the membership increased to 1,27,348.

The following statement gives a view of the number of societies between 1920 and 1970 :

Year	Number of co-operative societies	Members
1920	11	N. A.
1930	25	N. A.
1940	118	N. A.
1950	264	10,654
1960	453	47,298
1970	315	1,13,433

In 1972 an amount of Rs 1,36,61,000 was advanced as loan by co-operative societies at the rate of 9 per cent interest per annum. These societies now serve 892 villages of the district. Their paid-up share capital was Rs 71,25,403 on June 30th, 1972.

Co-operative Bank—The district Co-operative Bank, Ltd, Muzaffarnagar was established in 1927. Till 1952, the progress of the bank was slow. By 1973, however, it had 19 branches, with one branch at each development block headquarters. The main function of this bank is to make available short-term and medium-term loans to members of the co-operative societies through affiliated societies. The bank also accepts deposits and collects inward bills. It had a working capital of Rs 400.54 lakhs and a reserve fund of Rs 17.51 lakhs in 1972. The loan advanced by this bank was Rs 309.79 lakhs on June 30, 1973.

The Land Development Bank, Muzaffarnagar

This has four branches in the district, one each at Muzaffarnagar, Budhana, Jansath, and Shamli. Its functions are to provide long-term credit to cultivators for improvement of land, purchase of agricultural implements, redemption of old debts, planting of orchards, setting up of minor irrigation works, and purchase of pumping sets, tractors, etc. The total loan advanced by the various branches in the district amounted to Rs 308.67 lakhs on June 30, 1973.

The District Co-operative Federation—This was set up in 1948 with a view to linking the various district co-operative marketing institutions with the Uttar Pradesh Co-operative Federation, Lucknow. Now 44 co-operative unions are members of the district federation. The functions of the federation are to arrange for adequate supply of fertilizers, agricultural implements, improved varieties of seeds, etc. The federation does not advance credit. Its working capital was Rs 13.59 lakhs on June 30, 1971.

One wholesale consumer co-operative store was started at Muzaffarnagar in 1964, for checking the rising prices, eliminating the middle man, discouraging hoarding, and supplying unadulterated goods at reasonable rates. Though successful at that time, this institution is now under liquidation.

A Co-operative Milk Union was also established in 1964 to supply good quality milk at cheap rates. The working capital of this union was Rs 1.92 lakhs on June 30, 1971.

State Assistance to Industries

The industries in the district are assisted by the Uttar Pradesh Financial Corporation, Kanpur, the Small Industries Corporation, Kanpur, and the National Small Industries Corporation, New Delhi, besides the nationalised commercial banks.

Commercial Banks

After nationalization in the year 1971, the commercial banks in the district have started a drive to augment deposits and advance loans for trade, commerce, and agriculture at moderate rates of interest. They also opened branches in semi-urban and rural areas. By 1972 there were 45 branches of 10 commercial banks in the district as detailed in Statement I at the end of the chapter. Punjab National Bank was functioning as Lead Bank i.e. a bank

authorised by the Central Government to carry out surveys to reveal the functioning of and the changes in the economy of the district.

Since 1967 these Commercial Banks had also started giving liberal advances for the development of various industries, trades, and commerce. The following figures illustrate the rise in advances and deposits :

Year	Total advances by Banks (in Rs)	Total deposits (in Rs)
1967	Nil	6,50,00,000
1970	1,44,00,000	9,99,00,000
1972	7,98,00,000	17,17,00,000

Punjab National Bank, Central Bank of India, and State Bank of India command the largest business in the district.

Commercial Banks charge interest between 7 and 13 per cents on the loans advanced and pay at rates varying from 4 to 8 per cents per annum.

State Bank of India—This had 14 branches in the district by 1973. Its first branch was opened in 1925 in Muzaffarnagar town.

Punjab National Bank—In 1973, this bank had 9 branches in the district. The first branch of this bank was opened in 1940 at New Mandi in Muzaffarnagar.

Central Bank of India—There were 8 branches of this bank in the district in 1973. Its first branch was opened in 1941 in Shamli.

United Commercial Bank—In 1973, this bank had two branches in the district. Its first branch was opened in Kandhla in 1965.

Allahabad Bank of India had two branches in the district in 1973. The first branch of the bank was opened in Muzaffarnagar in 1885.

State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur opened its first branch at New Mandi, Muzaffarnagar, in 1947. This bank acts as a subsidiary to the State Bank of India.

Among the non-nationalized banks, the Lakshmi Commercial Bank, Ltd, the Punjab and Sind Bank, Ltd, and the Oriental Bank of Commerce, Ltd, each had three, two, and two branches respectively in the district in 1973.

National Savings Organization

The post-office savings bank scheme has been operating in the district for long. This scheme is mainly introduced to tap savings

and inculcate the habit of thrift in the people, as also to make funds available to government for investment in projects of national reconstruction. The scheme of deposits for defence purposes and the National Defence Certificates were introduced by the postal department during the Second World War to meet expenditure on the defence of the country.

Later in 1953 the scheme was suitably modified to utilise funds towards expenditure on plan items. The certificates were named the National Savings Certificates. The old National Defence Certificates and deposits were also allowed to be converted into National Saving Certificates. This scheme of national savings is still continuing with necessary modifications from time to time.

There are 35 post-offices in the district providing savings bank facility. The number of post-office savings bank accounts in the district was 96,680, with a total deposit of Rs 450 lakhs in 1970. The following statement gives the amounts deposited in 1972-73 :

Security	Amount (in Rs)
Post-Office Recurring Deposits	4,80,755
Post-Office Time Deposits	45,17,276
Cumulative Time Deposits	9,59,035
Post-Office Savings Banks	4,05,11,787
National Saving Certificates Sold	10,00,000

Life Insurance

Life insurance business was nationalised in September 1956 with the setting up of the Life Insurance Corporation of India. A branch office of the corporation was opened at Muzaffarnagar on September 1, 1956. It had procured business of Rs 37,932,475 and insured the lives of 8,609 persons by 1960. During 1970; 1971, and 1972 this branch had registered business of Rs 10,41,56,260 and insured the lives of 10,708 persons.

Currency and Coinage

Gold, silver, and copper coins were used in the district in the ancient and medieval periods. However, the British government introduced silver rupee, half rupee, and quarter rupee, as also paper currency, which considerably diminished the circulation of metallic currency. The old *mohars* (gold) *rupiya* (silver) and *dam* (copper) were gradually withdrawn. The decimal system was adopted in this district, as in the country, on October 1, 1958, dividing the rupee into 100 paise, and introducing coins of 50 paise, 25 paise, 10 paise, 5 paise, 3 paise, 2 paise and 1 paise denominations.

TRADE AND COMMERCE

Being situated in the doab, the district has been mainly agricultural from time immemorial. Hence agricultural produce has constituted the main articles of both internal and external trade of the district. The proximity to country's capital, viz., Delhi, also contributes to its ever-increasing trade activities. Towards the close of the last century the exports of the district were mainly wheat and *gur*, which had a fair repute and yielded considerable returns. The annual export of wheat and *gur* from Muzaffarnagar and Khatauli used to be only about 2,93,949 and 2,51,314 quintals respectively during 1881 and 1885. The export of wheat rose to 5,23,160 quintals in the year 1900.

Blankets cotton cloth, pottery, and papier mache goods were the other important articles manufactured which were sent out of the district.

Export

The following statement gives the annual export of commodities from the district :

Commodity	Export (in quintals)
Wheat	1,00,000
<i>Gur</i> (including <i>rab</i> and <i>shakkar</i>)	20,00,000
<i>Khandsari</i>	2,50,000

Carts pulled by animals and round bars of steel are sent out in large quantities to the neighbouring districts. Sugar, *gur* and *khandsari* are exported to Rajasthan, Gujrat, and West Bengal.

Imports

The main annual imports in the district are as follows :

Commodity	Import (in quintals)
Gram	25,000
Jowar	10,000
Maize	10,000
<i>Bajra</i>	5,000
<i>Arhar</i>	25,000
<i>Moong</i>	15,000
Oil-seeds	25,000
Groundnuts	25,000

Machine parts, building material, chemical fertilizers, coal, cement, and general merchandise are also imported in large quantities.

Trade Centres

The district has numerous trade centres. Tahsils have their own markets along with the markets held once or twice a week at important places. The names of the 13 main markets of the district are given below :

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Muzaffarnagar | 8. Jhinjhana |
| 2. Jansath | 9. Thanabhawan |
| 3. Khatauli | 10. Shahpur |
| 4. Miranpur | 11. Budhana |
| 5. Kairana | 12. Kandhla and, |
| 6. Shamli | 13. Purqazi |
| 7. Jalalabad | - - - |

Muzaffarnagar market deals in *gur*, *khandsari*, paddy, and wheat. There are two places called *mandi* in Muzaffarnagar town, the new and the old. The old *mandi* was in mohalla Weirganj. In 1930, it was shifted to a place in the east of the Railway station and named the New Mandi. Shamli, Khatauli, Kairana, and Morna are the other significant *mandis* of the district, dealing mainly in *gur*, *khandsari*, wheat maize, and spices. The *mandi* at Kairana is known particularly for trade in pepper.

Besides the markets there are 44 *hats*, scattered all over the district. These are held on fixed days of the week and supply articles of daily use to the villagers. Cattle are also marketed in these *hats*. The following statement gives their tahsilwise distribution :

Tahsil	No. of hats
Muzaffarnagar	5
Kairana	12
Jansath	21
Budhana	6

The following charges are levied on transactions made in these markets :

Description of charges	Rate per 100 kg.	By whom payable
Commission	Re 1.50	Buyer
Weighing	15 paise	Seller
Mandi charges	Re. 1	"
Palledari	15 paise	"

Price Control and Rationing

The rising prices and paucity of goods during the Second World War caused great hardship to the people. To check any further rise in the prices of the essential commodities the government rationed their distribution. The essential commodities controlled or rationed included food-grains, cloth, sugar, fire wood, kerosene oil, and cement. Licences were issued by the government to shopkeepers authorising sale of food-grains, mainly wheat and its products, gram, rice, and sugar. The rationing system has, however, continued with occasional changes. In 1973, there were 275 fair-price shops in the district.

Weights and Measures

In the first decade of the present century a variety of weights and measures were in vogue. Generally they were the same as those used in the other districts of the doab. The standard seer was of 80 tolas, used generally in the entire district, except in Shamli and Muzaffarnagar, where the seer was equal to 88 tolas. For measuring land the unit was the bamboo rod or *gatha*, of which twenty go to the *garib* chain, the latter being equal to 99 inches or $2\frac{3}{4}$ yards. This made a *pakka* *bigha* equal to 2,450.25 sq. yards. The English yard of 36 inches was also used.

The metric system of weights and measures was introduced into the district with effect from October 1, 1960.

STATEMENT I

List of Commercial Banks in the District

Reference Page No. 120

Name of Bank	Name of the place where the bank is located
1	2
State Bank of India	1. Muzaffarnagar (8 branches) 2. Kairana 3. Kandhla 4. Khatauli 5. Shamli 6. Ailam 7. Baghra 8. Basera 9. Jansath 10. Lalu kheri 11. Ramraj 12. Rohana Kalan
Punjab National Bank	1. Muzaffarnagar (2 branches) 2. Shamli 3. Budhana 4. Chhapar 5. Gashi Pukhta 6. Jalalabad 7. Jhinjana 8. Purqazi
Central Bank of India	1. Muzaffarnagar (2 branches) 2. Khatauli 3. Miranpur 4. Shamli 6. Bhopa 6. Charthawal 7. Shahpur

1	2
United Commercial Bank	1. Muzaffarnagar 2. Kandhla
Allahabad Bank	1. Muzaffarnagar 2. Une
Union Bank of India	1. Muzaffarnagar 2. Sisauli
State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur	1. Muzaffarnagar
The Lakshmi Commercial Bank, Ltd.	1. Kairana 2. Shamli 3. Budhana
The Punjab and Sind Bank, Ltd.	1. Morna 2. Ramraj
The Oriental Bank of Commerce, Ltd.	1. Muzaffarnagar 2. Thanabhwari

CHAPTER VII

COMMUNICATIONS

TRADE ROUTES AND HIGHWAYS AND MODES OF CONVEYANCE OLD AND NEW

The most renowned of the imperial roads during the rule of the Mauryas, connecting the North-Western Frontiers with Pataliputra, appears to have passed through the present parganas of Pur Chhapar and Bhukarheri in the north-eastern part of the district. Hiuen Tsang, the Chinese traveller, followed this route during his visit to Mandawar, an ancient town, now in district Bijnor. The route also finds a reference in the accounts of Alberuni (970-1030) and in the memoirs of Timur.

During the reign of Akbar, after the formation of the sirkar of Saharanpur, an old route running through the district from north to south, and connecting Sarsawa in district Saharanpur with Meerut and Baran (Bulandshahr), came into prominence. Its importance considerably increased during the reign of Shahjahan, when the town of Muzaffarnagar was founded on the remains of an old town called Sarwat, or Sarot, and a large serai was constructed on the route at the town of Khatauli about 22 km. south of Muzaffarnagar.

The other important route starting westward from Sarwat connected the ancient town of Baghra and led to Kairana, which was the headquarters of a *dastur* (district) and a large *mahal* during the reign of Akbar as mentioned in the *Ain-i-Akbari*. Another road leading north-eastward from Sarwat (Muzaffarnagar) connected Pur and Chhapar, the headquarters of the Akbari *mahals*, and passed on to Roorkee and Hardwar in district Saharanpur. Tughlaqpur (Nurnagar), which was made the country seat of Nurjahan during the reign of Jahangir, then lay on the bank of the Ganga and was connected with Pur and Khudda located on the Muzaffarnagar-Roorkee road, which was crossed at Barla by the Bhukarheri-Deoband road. The old towns of Jauli and Jansath, the capitals of the *mahals* of the same names in the reign of Akbar, were also connected with Khatauli and Muzaffarnagar. A road leading eastwards from Muzaffarnagar to the Ganga passed on to Bijnor. Charthawal, Thana Bhawan (Thana Bhim), Jhinhana, Kairana, Kandhla, and Budhana, lying in the upland tract to the west of Kali Nadi (west) were the headquarters of Akbari *mahals* and were connected by a somewhat circular road. Bidauli, the headquarters of the Akbari *mahal* of the same name was connected with Jhinhana. A road leading eastward from Budhana crossed the Meerut-Muzaffarnagar-Saharanpur road at Khatauli and, running past Miranpur and Dharampura in pargana Bhuma-Sambalhera, went on to Bijnor.

After the formation of the district in 1826 the roads connecting Muzaffarnagar, the headquarters town, with other important places in the district were subsequently metalled. At the beginning of the present century there were 109 km. of metalled and 514 km. of unmetalled roads in the district. The road from Khatauli to Jansath was metalled about 1917, Budhana being the only tahsil headquarters which was not connected with the district headquarters by a metalled road. Till 1947, most of these roads, however, were not designed for the heavy motor traffic which they had increasingly to serve, and which played havoc with them and had penetrated even to the unmetalled roads, rendering their condition still worse. There were about 91 km. of metalled roads under the charge of the public works department and 98 km. of metalled roads under the charge of district board (now Zila Parishad). In the following years most of the roads under the charge of the Zila Parishad were gradually taken over by the public works department. Some of the village roads were constructed by voluntary labour (*shramdan*).

Between 1947 and 1963 all the metalled roads were reconstructed and 296 km. of unmetalled roads were metalled. Besides, 18 km. of roads were metalled by the district board, 117 km. by the cane department, and 19 km. by voluntary labour.

The roads of the district are now classified as State highways, major district roads, and roads belonging to the local bodies. The State public works department is responsible for the maintenance of the State highways, the major district roads and some other roads, while the local bodies and other departments maintain the roads lying within their jurisdiction. At present there are in the district 191.2 km. of State highways, 203.3 km. major district roads, 63 km. of other district roads, 23 km. of *shramdan* roads, and 82 km. of cement concrete track and painted roads around the sugar factories, besides 40 km. of metalled and 115.6 km. of unmetalled roads under the control of the Zila Parishad. A list of important roads in the district will be found in Statement I at the end of the chapter.

Modes of Conveyance

As described by Bernier and stated in *Ain-i-Akbari*, the conveyances used in the district in the ancient times were palanquins, horses, ponies, camels, elephants, and carts and carriages drawn generally by bullocks and horses, mostly used by the Umrahs. Wheeled traffic was not much common in the tract during the reign of Akbar. Carts might be used in level country, but rivers and ravines being formidable obstacles, the bulk of heavy traffic moved on pack animals, while carting was practised mainly in the case of valuable goods such as treasures. The *ekka* and *buggy* appear to have been developed since Akbar's time. Till the first quarter of the present century the affluent kept horses, elephants, *bahlis*, and *bharkas*, whereas *ekkas* and *tongas* served the need of common people. Buggies and flour-wheeled carriages generally drawn by one or two horses were owned by jagirdars in the urban areas. *Dolis* (litters) or *palkis* (palanquins) appear to have been in use since the remote past. People in the villages, however, depended largely on bullock-carts.

With the beginning of the second quarter of the present century some lorries and trucks started plying in the district. Their number has since been gradually increasing. The ekkas have now been completely replaced by cycle-rickshaws, especially in the town of Muzaffarnagar, and the number of tongas has also greatly decreased. As an economical and easy means of transport, the bicycles are popular among students, small traders, washermen, and common people.

In the rural areas the bullock-cart is still a vehicle of multifarious uses. It is employed for different agricultural purposes as also for the conveyance of people ordinarily and during fairs and festivals. It is eminently suited for village roads which are unfit for mechanised transport. Cycle-rickshaws have made their appearance in the rural areas also, and bicycles also are now a common sight even in the villages which are far from metalled roads. Of late tractors, besides being of immense use in agriculture, also serve as a useful means of transport and communication in the rural areas, although under the law they should not be used on public roads. Boats are used to cross rivers, carrying passengers and goods.

In the urban areas vehicles have to be registered with the local bodies which charge annually a small fee, varying from one to five rupees per vehicle from the owner, and a nominal amount from the pullers of cycle-rickshaws. They also lay down standard rates of fares per hour as also for specified distances, though often in practice the fare is settled mutually between the two parties. The following statement gives the number of vehicles of different kinds registered in the district in 1971-72 :

Kind of vehicles	Number of vehicles registered in the district
Handcarts	750
Four-wheeled carts	48
Buggies	277
Cycle	4,562
Cycle-rickshaws	1,894
Tongas	119

Vehicular Traffic

With the beginning of the second quarter of the present century motor vehicles, mainly lorries and trucks, started plying in the district. Gradually their number rose and now they rush about day and night on all the main routes of this and the adjoining districts.

After Independence the volume of goods traffic has considerably increased. Consumers goods, agricultural produce, and other articles are imported and exported on trucks. The freight is usually settled by the parties concerned and it varies from one to two rupees per km. Generally a truck carries goods around 74 quintals in weight. Taxies and buses are also available for the use of passengers. The following statement gives the number of registered vehicles in the district in 1971-72 :

Vehicles	Numbers
Motor cycles	129
Private cars	34
Trucks	66
Private buses	15
Tractors	411
Mini buses	4
Auto-rickshaws	1
Jeeps	5

U. P. State Road Transport Corporation—The U. P. Government Roadways organisation which was converted into U. P. State Road Transport Corporation with effect from June 1, 1972, started running passenger buses in this district since 1947. Initially they started operating on the Meerut-Muzaffarnagar, Muzaffarnagar-Khatauli, and Muzaffarnagar-Roorkee routes only.

With the development and improvement of roads and increasing passenger traffic, the Corporation bus service has been expanded and, in 1972, covered 19 routes in the district as detailed below :

Name of Routes	No. of buses plying
1	2
Muzaffarnagar—Meerut	9
Meerut—Daurala	1
Muzaffarnagar—Nawla	1
Muzaffarnagar—Jeewana	1
Meerut—MahaNka	1

[Contd.]

1	2
Meerut—Jwalagarh	1
Meerut—Radna Khera	2
Muzaffarnagar—Budhana	4
Muzaffarnagar—Roorkee	9
Muzaffarnagar—Landhora	1
Muzaffarnagar—Basera	3
Muzaffarnagar—Badinola	3
Muzaffarnagar—Delhi	2
Roorkee—Delhi	6
Muzaffarnagar—Hardwar	1
Muzaffarnagar—Moradabad	1
Hardwar—Khurja	1
Muzaffarnagar—Khai Kheri	3
Muzaffarnagar—Gurukul	1

About 50 lakh passengers were carried on these routes in 1972.

In 1973, there were 267 private buses owned by 23 motor operators unions plying on different routes of the district.

Railways

The main line of communication passing through the district is the Delhi-Saharanpur section of the Northern Railway. It runs from Delhi to Saharanpur traversing the central portion of the district from south to north. This railway was opened in 1869 under the name of the Sindh, Delhi and Punjab Railway which, in 1886, was amalgamated with the North-Western State Railway. It enters the district at the village of Titaura in the south of pargana Khatauli and, traversing the pargana of Khatauli and Muzaffarnagar, enters district Saharanpur. Beginning from the north there are the following five stations on this line in the district : Rohana Kalan, Muzaffarnagar, Kukra Nulla, Mansurpur, and Khatauli.

The Shahdra-Saharanpur Light Railway connecting Delhi-Shahdra with Saharanpur was constructed by Martin Burn Ltd., and was opened to traffic in 1907. The line passed through a thickly-populated, well-irrigated, and agriculturally rich tract of the district and served *mandis* of gur (jaggery) and foodgrains at Jalalabad, Shamli, and Kandhla. It was closed on September 1, 1970, owing to the heavy losses suffered by the company, but its closure resulted in great hardship as difficulty was experienced by the people of the area, especially in transportation of goods. It has now been decided to revive it, converting it into a broad gauge

track with stations at Thana Bhawan, Hind, Silawar, Shamli, Balwa, Khandraul, Kandhla, and Ailam. Work was started on it on December 3, 1973.

Travel Facilities

Before the introduction of locomotives and mechanised transport, journeys were beset with dangers and difficulties. People generally travelled in groups and usually on horseback. The serais served a useful purpose by providing food and shelter to travellers and their animals, especially during the Mughal period. The ruins of a large serai built by emperor Shahjahan can be seen in the town of Khatauli, situated on the road from Muzaffarnagar to Meerut, besides a serai located in the town of Muzaffarnagar.

Dharmshalas

There are a number of dharmshalas and serai in the district, the details of which are appended at the end of the chapter in Statement II.

Dak Bungalows and Inspection Houses

The town of Muzaffarnagar has two dak bungalows of the canal department and one each of the public works department and the Zila Parishad. Besides these there are many dak bungalows and inspection-houses in the district, the details of which are given in Statement III at the end of the chapter. Rohana Khurd, Chauthwal, Baghra, Barla, Tughlaqpur Kamehra, Bahadurpur, Mohammadpur Jhel, and Alipur, all in tahsil Muzaffarnagar, have a dak bungalow each of the canal department. The Zila Parishad, the public works and the tube-wells departments, each has an inspection-house at Shukartal, Jansath, and Gangdhari respectively, all of which fall in tahsil Jansath. There are inspection-houses maintained by the canal department at Bhainsi, Salarpur, Jauli, Chitaura, Babra, Morna, Qasampur Khola, and Bhuma, all of which come in tahsil Jansath. Banat, a village in tahsil Kairana has an inspection-house of the public works department, while each of the Patheri, Bhainswal, Bhatu, Taprana, and Bhaju villages, belonging to the same tahsil, possesses an inspection-house of the canal department. In tahsil Budhana there are three dak bungalows of the canal department. They are located at Palri, Gosa, and Kandhla. The villages of Loi and Budhana have inspection-houses of the tube-wells and the public works departments respectively.

POST AND TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONES

The history of the post-office begins with the institution, soon after the British occupation, of an imperial mail line from Agra to Meerut and Saharanpur, which was subsequently extended to Mussoorie and Ambala. In 1838 the North-Western Provinces postal circle was formed, a dak cess was levied, and a force of runners maintained for the carriage of mails, the transmission of official correspondence having hitherto been conducted through the agency of the police. There was as yet no means for sending

private letters to the interior, and it was not till 1845 that a concession was made in this direction, each packet being charged for at the rate of half an anna. The entire management of the district post rested with the local officials, but the Post Office Act of 1866 extended the operations of the imperial department, the intention being to take over all district offices which were gradually abolished. In 1903, there was a head post-office at Muzaffarnagar and 35 postal branch and sub-offices in the district, all in the postal division of Meerut. In 1917, there were 28 branch and 11 sub-offices which, in 1924, increased to 39 and 12 respectively. In 1934, the number of branch offices rose to 46 but that of sub-offices fell to 11. In 1961, there were 167 branch and sub-offices in the district.

In 1971, there were 242 post and telegraph offices, of which 34 had saving-bank facilities and 17 served as public call office. Telegraph service in both English and Hindi was available at 31 post-offices.

Telephone Service—There were nine telephone exchange offices in the district. The total connections were estimated to be between 2,400 and 2,500.



STATEMENT I

Important Roads in the District Measuring 5 km. and above

Reference Page No. 129

Name of roads	Length in km.
State Highways	
Delhi—Mussoorie road	58
Muzaffarnagar—Shamli—Kairana road	48
Baghpat—Saharanpur road	46
Muzaffarnagar—Bijnor road	33
Approach road to Lal Bridge at Kairana	6
Major District Roads	
Kandhla—Khatauli road	41
Muzaffarnagar—Jansath—Ramraj road	37
Khatauli—Morna road	34
Muzaffarnagar—Thana Bhawan road	28
Muzaffarnagar—Budhana road	26
Kandhla—Kairana road	12
Muzaffarnagar—Saharanpur road	11
Bijnor—Mawana—Meerut road	8
Jalalabad—Gangoh—Tirton road	8
Other District Roads	
Lalukheri—Sisauli—Budhana road	17
Purqazi—Gordhanpur road	15
Shamli—Jhinjhana road	11
Jhinjhana—Une road	9
Morna—Shukartal road	5
Shamli—Kabraut	10
Shamli—Kudana—Adampur road	8
Shamli—Bhainsawal road	8
Shamli—Malendi road	6
Rohana—Charthawal road	6
Rohana—Chhapar road	7

STATEMENT II

Dharmshalas etc.

Reference Page No. 133

Place	Name	Facilities available	Management
TAHSIL BUDHANA			
Taherpur Chabisa	Dharmshala Taherpur Chabisa	—	Private
Kandhla	Puranl Dharmshala Nai Dharmshala	— —	Private Private
Budhana	Dharmshala Budhana	—	Private
Sirauli	Dharmshala Sirauli	—	Private
TAHSIL MUZAFFARNAGAR			
Charthawal	Vaish Dharmshala	Lodging only	Private
Basera	Jain Dharmshala	—do—	Private
Purqazi	Dharmshala Lala Sugan Chand	—do—	Private
Muzaffarnagar	Badi Dharmshala Dharmshala Chander Lal Ghanshiam Das Mandi-wali Dharmshala Dharmshala Bhagat Singh Road Dharmshala Maid Akshatmi Arya Dharmshala Agarwal Dharmshala Dharmshala Gandhi Colony Sarai Raja Wali	Lodging only " " Lodging only Lodging only Lodging only " " " " " " " " " "	Private Private Private Private Private Private Private Private Private Private
TAHSIL JANSATH			
Khatauli	Jain Dharmshala Devi Mandi Dharmshala Balmiki Dharmshala	Lodging only " " " "	Private Private Private
Jansath	Vaish Dharmshala	" "	Private
Miranpur	Vaish Dharmshala	" "	Private
TAHSIL KAIRANA			
Jhinjhana	Titro Wali Dharmshala	—	Private
Shamli	Station Wali Dharmshala	—	Private
Kairana	Kalehri Dharmshala Arya Samaj Dharmshala	— —	Private Private

STATEMENT III

Inspection-Houses, Dak Bungalows, etc.

Reference Page No. 133

Place	Name	Managing department authority
TAHSIL BUDHANA		
Palri	Dak Bungalow Shahpur	Canal Department
Budhana	Inspection-house	Public Works Department
Loi	Dak Bungalow	Tube-wells Department
Kandhla	Inspection-house	Canal Department
Gosa	Dak Bungalow	Canal Department
TAHSIL MUZAFFARNAGAR		
Jat Mujhera	Dak Bungalow	Canal Department
Muzaffarnagar City	Dak Bungalow (Two)	Canal Department
	Dak Bungalow	Public Works Department
	Dak Bungalow	Zila Parishad
Rohana-Khurd	Dak Bungalow	Canal Department
Charthawal	Dak Bungalow	Canal Department
Baghra	Dak Bungalow	Canal Department
Barla	Dak Bungalow	Canal Department
Tughlaqpur Kamehra	Dak Bungalow	Canal Department
Bahadurpur	Dak Bungalow	Canal Department
Mohammadpur Jhel	Dak Bungalow	Canal Department
Alipur	Dak Bungalow	Canal Department
TAHSIL JANSATH		
Jansath	Inspection-house	Public Works Department
Gangdhari	Inspection-house	Tube-wells Department
Bhainsi	Inspection-house	Canal Department
Salarpur	Inspection-house	Canal Department
Jauli	Inspection-house	Canal Department
Chitaura	Inspection-house	Canal Department
Babra	Inspection-house	Canal Department
Morna	Inspection-house	Canal Department
Shukartal	Inspection-house	Zila Parishad
Qasampur Khola	Inspection-house	Canal Department
Bhuma	Inspection-house	Canal Department
TAHSIL KAIRANA		
Banat	Inspection-house	Public Works Department
Bhainswal	Inspection-house	Irrigation Department
Bhatu	Inspection-house	Irrigation Department
Taprana	Inspection-house	Irrigation Department
Bhaju	Inspection-house	Irrigation Department

CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

In 1961 the population of the district was 14,44,921, of which the workers numbered 4,89,430. A study of the occupational structure of the working population reveals that nearly 2,22,486 persons were engaged in miscellaneous occupations. The break-up is given below :

Public services	5,954
Educational and scientific services	4,366
Religious and welfare services	1,157
Medical and health services	1,952
Legal services	367
Business services	58
Community services and trade and labour associations	55
Recreation services	1,426
Personal services	11,628
Livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantation, orchards, and allied activities	13,165
Industry	66,125
Construction	5,631
Trade and commerce	28,406
Transport, storage, and communications	7,649
Electric, gas, water, and sanitation services	18,154
Mining and quarrying	5
Unspecified services	56,388

Although the population in the following decade rose to 18,02,289, the number of workers fell to 1,49,112. This was, perhaps, due to the changes brought into the definition of 'worker' by the census of 1971, a direct effect of which was that the females engaged in household duties were excluded from the working category. Classification of workers under various categories of economic activity also differed from the previous arrangement, and it resulted in a lower enumeration of miscellaneous workers whose number was thus reduced to 5,17,666. Details of the various types of workers engaged in miscellaneous occupations can be had from the records of 1971 census.

Public Services

With the growing responsibility of the government towards planned economic and social development of the country, employment opportunities under the Central and State Governments at different levels have increased considerably. Side by side, activities in the public administration of corporations and local bodies have assumed vast dimensions. Some idea may be had of this from

the following table based on the information received from the district employment officer, Muzaffarnagar, for the year 1970 :

Type of establishments	No. of establishments	No. of employees
Central Government	1	4
State Government	59	7,903
Quasi-government (Central)	14	361
Quasi-government (State)	4	543
Local bodies	17	6,825

Persons in the above services fall under the category of fixed income-earners who are hard hit by the ever-rising cost of living. However, the comparative position of Central Government employees is better than that of those under the employment of the State Government or the local bodies, if fringe benefits are taken into account. Dearness allowance is being paid to all classes of such employees at rates varying in accordance with their salaries. Benefits such as provident fund and medical treatment are available to the government employees as well as those of the local bodies, while pension facilities are extended to government servants only. Leave rules have been revised by the government to provide more relief to its temporary employees. Other benefits include granting of advances for the purchase of conveyance and for the construction or repair of a house. Residential accommodation at a moderate rent is made available in government colonies, and suitable house-rent allowance is also paid in lieu thereof to certain categories of employees. Non-practising allowance is sanctioned to medical staff holding posts prohibiting private practice. The employees are free to form associations or unions for their welfare and for the protection and promotion of their service conditions. The State employees of the district have joined the State Employees' Joint Council or the Ministerial Employees Association which is affiliated to its parent body at the State level. The employees of the local bodies have become members of the Local Authorities Employees' Association, and the employees of the State road transport corporation are members of the Employees' Road Transport Corporation Joint Council. These are affiliated to the apex organisations at the State level.

LEARNED PROFESSIONS

Education

Teaching continues to be regarded a noble profession. Because of a determined policy of the government to propagate literacy and education among the masses, vast avenues of employment have opened to the educated to work as teachers. In the past public instruction was associated with classes of persons whose hereditary profession was teaching children in their private *pathshalas* or *madarsas*. This was considered an act of philanthropy, and no regular tuition fee was charged. Now things have changed and

the modern system of education has completely replaced the traditional class of the private *pandit* and *maulvi* by regular, salaried school teachers.

In 1961, the district had 4,366 teachers, including 486 women. Of these 2,893, including 316 women, were employed in the primary and junior high schools; 683, including 70 women, in the secondary schools; and 51, including one woman, in the degree colleges.

Since 1964, the triple benefit scheme has been extended to State-aided institutions run by local bodies or private managements, bringing the advantages of contributory provident fund, compulsory life insurance and pension, including family pension, to teachers.

Teachers' wards are entitled to free tuition up to intermediate classes. Needy and disabled teachers can get financial assistance from the National Foundation for Teachers' Welfare Fund, and those suffering from tuberculosis can get admission to the Bhowali Sanitarium where a certain number of seats are reserved for them. The teachers of the district have organised themselves into the Secondary Teachers' Association and the Primary Teachers' Association for the protection and promotion of their service interest.

In 1961, there were 431 artists, writers and related workers, including 4 authors, 19 editors and other journalists, one translator and one actor in the district. The musicians and dancers numbered 383 and 12 respectively.

Medical

In 1961, there were 1,091 medical practitioners of all systems of medicine, and 748 nurses, pharmacists, and other medical and health workers in the district. Physicians in the allopathic, Ayurvedic, and homoeopathic systems totalled 184, 377 and 18 respectively in 1961. The dentists numbered 58 in the same year.

A branch of the Indian Medical Association was established in the district in the early thirties. The Association aims at promoting medical and allied services in all the different branches, by organizing refresher courses and seminars, besides holding camps for medical relief work. It had 55 members on roll in 1971.

Lawyers

In 1972, there were about 433 practising lawyers in the district. The State Government appoints district government counsels for criminal, civil and revenue work from among qualified legal practitioners to conduct its cases. Some lawyers are also appointed as panel lawyers and special counsels to aid the district government counsels.

With the influx of new entrants, legal practice has become more competitive, though not less remunerative. Some malpractices have also crept in. Still, the profession retains its high position in the community. Lawyers lead in almost all spheres of public activity, particularly those connected with social service and politics. Mostly, the lawyers practise at the district headquarters

as majority of the cases lie in courts located there. The legal practitioners of the district have formed the Bar Association, which had about 360 members in 1972. There is also a civil Bar Association which had a membership of 73 in 1972. The main aims of the associations are creating a feeling of brotherhood among the members, maintaining harmonious relations between the bench and the bar, safeguarding the civil liberties of citizens, and rendering free legal assistance to deserving persons.

Engineering

Engineering services in this district are represented mainly in four branches, the building and roads, the irrigation, the local self-government engineering, and the hydel. They have separate divisions of survey, designs, and construction. In 1973, these branches had 21 engineers. A large number of overseers (now called junior engineers), linemen and, draughtsmen are also employed in these branches. A few industrial establishment of the district have on their pay roll qualified engineers and diploma-holders. Besides these, there are some engineers and architects who work privately.

DOMESTIC AND PERSONAL SERVICE

Domestic Servants

Domestic servants comprise a fair proportion of the population of the district. They are not necessarily unskilled workers, but get lower wages as compared to other members of the labour class. They render whole-time, as well as limited or part-time, services in houses. Full-time domestic servants are generally employed by well-to-do persons only. Usually these persons are paid remuneration in cash, but occasionally they receive meals, garments, and other amenities also along with cash payment. They dwell in slums or in outhouses, or in accommodation provided by their masters. They have no security of job and often change their masters. In 1961, there were 1,519 house-keepers, cooks, maid-servants and related workers, of whom 586 were cooks and cook-bearers. There were 885 butlers, bearers, waiters, and maid-servants. The number of cleaners, sweepers, and watermen was 18,350.

Barbers

In the past barbers or *nais* used to visit families either daily or weekly, but with the advance of times they have opened saloons and no longer move from house to house. The number of hair-cutting saloons is larger in the urban areas and they are manned by more than one person, the owners employing paid workers. Some barbers attend their customers on roadsides and pavements and save expenditure on establishments.

Barbers, besides rendering face-lifting services, also perform traditional duties in rituals and sacraments such as marriage, *nam-karan*, *mundan*, death, etc., when they are assisted by their womenfolk as well. In 1961, there were 4,878 barbers in the district.

Washermen

In cities and towns, the washermen still go from house to house collecting dirty clothes and returning the washed ones. They are not so much in demand now in cities owing to high rates and larger use of synthetic fabrics which are easily washable at home and are crease-resistant. Conditions obtaining in the villages, however, have not undergone any substantial change. In cities and towns laundries and dry-cleaning units have become quite popular.

In 1961, there were in the district 4,042 washermen, including dry-cleaners, of whom 929 worked in the urban areas.

Tailors

In the urban areas tailoring is considered an art and needs specialised training. Well-to-do tailors do the cutting of garments themselves but employ a number of workers on daily or monthly wages for stitching and sundry jobs. In the rural areas the entire job is done by a single individual. Kurtas, shirts, and pyjamas continue to be the chief items of tailored dress in the rural areas, where the womenfolk hardly sew their own or their children's garments at home. In 1961, there were 6,249 tailors and related workers in the district, of whom 1,083 worked in the urban areas.

OTHER OCCUPATIONS

Among those pursuing certain other occupations in the district in 1961, there were 2,093 knitters, weavers, and spinners; 5,500 carpenters and cabinet makers; 6,283 hawkers, pedlars, and street vendors; 1931 jewellers, goldsmiths, and silversmiths; 3,596 blacksmiths, hammersmiths, and forgers; 1,505 salesmen and shop-attendants; 859 rickshaw-pullers; 557 electricians; 2,393 shoemakers, cobblers and shoeshiners; 169 sawyers and wood mechanics; 498 gardeners; 70 painters and paper hangers; 1,743 animal-drawn vehicles and drivers; 219 loggers and forestry workers; 64 miners; 3,045 brick-layers and plasterers; 1,639 bakers confectioners, candy and sweetmeat makers; 7 photographers; 93 plumbers; and 2,952 leather-cutters.

CHAPTER IX

ECONOMIC TRENDS

LIVELIHOOD PATTERN

The population of the district Muzaffarnagar depending on agriculture was found to be 47.8 per cent of the total population of the district in 1901. It remained almost the same in 1911, whereafter it rose to 55 per cent in 1921. By 1951 it had come up to nearly 65 per cent. In 1951 the percentage for the State was 74.2.

In 1921, the percentage of workers in the total population was 51.0 (agricultural 26.5 per cent, non-agricultural 24.5 per cent), but by 1951 it had come down to 32.8 (agricultural 21.0, non-agricultural 11.8).

A cursory study will thus indicate an alarming decrease in the working population, indicating unemployment even amongst the already employed persons of 1961. This apparent anomaly is perhaps easily explained by the fact that the definition of a worker in 1961 was different from that in 1971. The concept and definition of a worker adopted in the 1961 census, allowed many persons to be included in the category of workers who were not so treated in the 1971 census. In 1961 as little as an hour's work in a day entitled a person to be treated as a worker and a woman whose time was utilised basically in household duties was defined as a worker even if she carried food to the field and tended the cattle. But in the census of 1971, a man or a woman who was engaged primarily in domestic duties such as cooking for the household, etc., was not treated as a worker and classed among the non-workers, even though such a person lent a hand (not on a full-time basis) in the family's economic activities.

The comparative position of the working population in the district under the two censuses of 1961 and 1971 is given below :

Year	Total population	Total number of workers	Percentage of workers to total population			
			Agricultural workers	Non-agri cultural workers	Total workers	
					District	U. P.
1961	1,44,921	4,89,430	26.8	7.07	33.87	39.1
1971	18,02,289	5,17,666	20.43	8.33	28.72	30.9

The nine divisions of workers and the number of persons engaged in 1971 are as follows:

Name	No. of workers			Percentage of workers	
	Male	Female	Total	To total population	To Total No. of workers
Cultivators	2 21,098	2,660	2,23,758	12.04	43.02
Agricultural labourers	1,39,795	5,001	1,44,796	8.03	27.09
Persons engaged in forestry, fishing, hunting and activities connected with live-stock, plantations, orchards and allied pursuits	2,565	338	2,903	0.10	0.56
Persons engaged in mining and quarrying	13	—	13	0.02	0.0007
Persons engaged in manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs :					
(a) Household industry	26,765	1,623	28,388	1.57	5.48
(b) Other than household industry	23,287	803	24,070	1.34	4.64
Persons engaged in construction	5,144	110	5,154	0.28	1.00
Persons engaged in trade and commerce	30,588	232	30,820	1.71	5.95
Persons engaged in transport, storage, and communication	9,943	107	10,050	0.56	1.94
Persons engaged in other services	44,862	2,852	47,714	2.64	9.21
Total workers	5,04,040	13,626	5,17,666	28.72	100.00
Non-workers	4,80,455	8,04,168	12,84,623	71.28	—
Total population	9,84,495	8,17,794	18,02,289	—	—

As will be observed in the above statement, all the non-workers have been grouped together in a single class, though they have been classified in the census of 1971 as follows:

- (a) Full-time students
- (b) Those attending to household duties
- (c) Dependants and infants
- (d) Retired persons and rentiers
- (e) Persons of independent means
- (f) Beggars and vagrants
- (g) Inmates of penal, mental, and charitable institutions and
- (h) Others

It will be further observed that cultivators constitute more than one-third, and agricultural labourers a little more than one-fourth, of the total working population in the district.

GENERAL LEVEL OF PRICES AND WAGES

Prices

The price level of commodities is a significant indicator of the economic condition of the people, though price level itself is dependent on a number of factors such as growth and decline of population, variation in the price of gold and silver, level of production, imports and exports, etc. Generally, prices fluctuate with the changes in the seasons. For instance, during harvesting season the prices are comparatively lower than at any other time, but apart from such seasonal fluctuations in prices, some have stuck permanently at a higher level since the last decade of the nineteenth century because of the progressive decline in the purchasing power of the rupee. All the important crops such as wheat, rice, jowar, gram, linseed, etc., are produced in the district, but wheat is the staple crop. At the beginning of the nineteenth century the rates of food-grains were extremely low. Though at times there was a fluctuation in prices, yet generally they remained low till the middle of this century.

The famine of 1837 had a strong effect on the market. Yet only a year later the general price level had shown a considerable decline which continued, but rose shortly after. In 1851, wheat sold at 25 seers, per rupee, but three years later it was sold at 47 seers and again at 15 seers to a rupee in 1861. The struggle of 1857 had a disturbing effect on trade, and this turmoil had only passed away when in 1886 there was another famine in the district and prices rose further. Wheat was selling at the rate of 9 seers per rupee, barley at 11 seers, and bajra at 10 seers. After the end of the famine, low prices again continued in the district till 1876. In 1877, the price of wheat went down to nearly 17 seers a rupee, and gradually declined further, touching its lowest point of nearly 26 seers in 1884. From this year there was a gradual and almost constant rise in its price till 1892, when its average price was 14 1/4 seers. There was again a considerable fall in prices in 1894, but they rose in the subsequent years, reaching the highest point in 1897, when wheat was sold at less than ten seers per rupee. The year 1897 exhibited a scale of prices far higher than that recorded in any previous year. The price of barley rose to 11 seers, of bajra to 9 1/2 seers, and of jowar to 10 1/2 seers per rupee.

With the outbreak of the first World War in 1914, a gradual rise in the prices was recorded in the succeeding years. The price level was higher by 22 per cent in 1916 and by 54 per cent in 1928, over the rates prevailing in 1911, viz., wheat at 7 seers 10 chhataks, common rice at 7 seers 2 chhataks, gram at 15 seers 15 chhataks, and arhar dal at 8 seers 13 chhataks per rupee. From 1930 onwards the prices again began to rule easy owing to the world-wide economic depression.

The price level went down in 1934 by about 47 per cent, 33 per cent, and 18 per cent as compared to those of 1928, 1916, and 1911 respectively. By 1939, it registered a rise of about 52 per cent over that prevalent in 1934.

The story of prices after 1939 is one of constant rise. In the first year of the war the rise in the general level of the prices of food-grains was comparatively small, and there was a tendency to consider this rise as not wholly an evil since it was expected to give to the agriculturists the advantage of higher prices for their produce. It was felt that having passed through the gloom of depression for a number of years, the cultivator deserved to enjoy the benefit of better prices, which continued to show an upward trend. But the mood of complacency in this rising trend soon disappeared, and by 1941 it was generally recognised that some form of price control was inevitable. No doubt the rise in prices was due to the intensive activity of the speculators, the emergence of black market, the piling of stock underground, and the creation of an artificial scarcity. A spiralling in the prices which was the immediate result, further accentuated after the extension of the war to the eastern frontiers of India by the government policy of making heavy purchases in the market on military accounts as also on behalf of itself. These purchases were financed by continual additions to paper currency and notes against sterling receipts. Monetary factors thus contributed in a large measure to the rise in prices.

The Food-grains Policy Committee, 1943, which examined the question of statutory maximum prices, strongly recommended statutory price control for all the major food-grains and laid great emphasis on effective price control. A partial rationing scheme was introduced in 1943 into the district, and the markets were also allowed to function normally to avoid the possibility of a breakdown in supplies. The availability of certain food-grains at subsidized rates from the government shops induced the dealers to reduce their own prices and bring out their hoarded stocks.

It was expected that with the end of the war and the enforcement of many price control measures by the government, the general food situation would ease, but it did not. The price level in 1944 was higher by 231 per cent than that of 1911, and by about 60 per cent than that of 1939. The period between January 1943 and July 1946 was that of partial rationing in the district, whereas that between 1946 and July 1948 was one of decontrol.

After the resumption of control in July 1948, prices started going down. The basic overall shortage, however, reasserted itself, and prices soon assumed an upward trend, so that it seemed the markets would get beyond control unless definite steps were taken to arrest the rise in prices. People also demanded the restoration of rationing and control. The government took immediate steps and total rationing was reimposed about the middle of 1949.

The trend in prices after 1951-52 is to be reviewed against the background of gradual relaxation of war-time control measures and planned efforts for the economic development of the country. In November 1953, the government decided to decontrol wheat and coarse grains. Considerable growth in food production led to a tendency towards a fall in the prices of agricultural produce. Besides this, the withdrawal of all financial resources by the

government from the agricultural market had the effect of lowering prices which once again began to be adjusted by the normal forces of demand and supply. The cultivator was not sure of getting a minimum price for his grain, nor was the trader assured of earning a commission on the grain supplied by him. The nervousness of the cultivator and the trader led to a further decline in prices. Consequently, the downward trend which had started in 1953 could not be arrested, and by 1955 prices had fallen by about 20 per cent for rice, 22.5 per cent for wheat, and 25 per cent for gram as compared to those prevailing in 1950. In order to check a further fall in prices, the government in 1954 announced its decision to purchase food-grains as a measure of price support. Prices, therefore, again showed a gradual upward trend. The average yearly prices in the urban areas for certain years from 1950 to 1965 are given below :

Year	Prices (in Rs per kg.)		
	Wheat	Gram	Rice
1950	0.40	0.28	0.50
1955	0.31	0.21	0.40
1960	0.62	0.35	0.50
1965	0.80	0.78	0.90

The average yearly retail prices from 1966 to 1971 were as follows :

Year	Prices (in Rs per kg.)		
	Wheat	Gram	Rice
1966	0.75	0.80	1.20
1967	1.15	1.20	1.40
1968	0.80	0.80	1.10
1969	0.82	0.87	1.15
1970	1.20	0.98	1.20
1971	0.78	0.90	1.30

The average retail prices of certain other commodities in the district in 1971 are given below :

Commodity	Prices (in Rs. per kg.)
Dal arhar	1.60
Ghee	13.00
Jaggery	1.00
Firewood	0.12
Sugar	1.70
Mustard Oil	5.00

Wages

Long back, all those who picked up their living indirectly from agriculture in the rural areas, used to be paid in kind annually at the time of harvesting. But times have changed and the village as an economically self-sufficient unit is becoming rare, except in the economically very backward regions, and payment in kind has given place to cash payments. The Agriculture Labour Enquiry in India presumed that the rise in the prices of food-grains since the Second World War also influenced the mode of wage payment in agriculture i.e. from kind to cash wage payment. Whatever be the reasons, there is generally a decided preference for receiving wages in cash.

During the second half of the nineteenth century there was a gradual but considerable increase in the wages of skilled and unskilled labour in the district. The increase was attributed to the upward trend in the prices of food-grains. About 1859, unskilled labourers were paid Rs 3 a month, which rose gradually to about Rs 4-12-0 in 1869 and to Rs 5 in 1900, but in busy seasons wages were doubled. A woman labourer was usually paid two-thirds of a man's wage, and a boy got only a half of it. An agricultural worker was paid Rs 1-14-0 a month in 1859, which varied from Rs 6 to Rs 7 in 1900. Cash wages paid to several craftsmen during this period showed an appreciable rise. In 1859 the monthly wages of a potter were Rs 2-14-0, rising to Rs 4-14-0 in 1867, while about 1900 they varied from Rs 7-8-0 to Rs 9-8-0. Similarly tailors who in 1859 were paid Rs 4-12-0 a month, received Rs 6-4-0 in 1867, and about the year 1900 were paid Rs 10.

A comparative survey of rural wages for skilled and unskilled labour for certain years from 1906 to 1970 is given in the following statement :

Year	Wages (in Rs per day)	
	Unskilled labour	Skilled labour
1906	0.16	0.31
1911	0.18	—
1916	0.22	0.50
1928	0.30	0.75
1934	0.20	0.60
1939	0.22	0.55
1944	0.25	1.05
1949	1.50	6.00
1955	1.50	6.00
1960	1.50	8.00
1965	2.00	8.50
1970	4.25	9.00

As a result of the First World War, there occurred a marked all-round rise in wages, which became much pronounced in 1928. The fall of 1930, which was due to the world-wide economic depression, was reflected in the wages obtaining about 1934. After this wages began to rise, and by 1945 those for unskilled and skilled labour had recorded a rise of 454 and 257 per cent respectively over those of 1939. This abnormal rise may be attributed to the outbreak of the war in 1939 and to the rise in prices. Wages thereafter did not come down and continued to move upwards.

Wages in the urban areas remained as usual slightly higher than those in the rural areas.

In the sixties there was a rise in the prices of essential commodities, and so wages also went up. In the urban areas the wages for unskilled and skilled labour rose from Rs 1.50 and Rs 4.50 per day respectively in 1960 to Rs 2 and Rs 4.50 respectively in 1965, to Rs 4.50 and 9.00 respectively in 1970, and to Rs 5 and Rs 9.50 respectively in 1972.

The wages for various agricultural operations obtaining in 1972 in the district are given in the following statement :

Job	Wages (in Rs per day)
Weeding	4
Irrigation	4
Transplantation	4
Ploughing	4
Carpentry	9
Blacksmithy	9

Wages prevailing in Muzaffarnagar in 1971 in respect of certain occupations were as below :

Occupation	Unit of quotation	Wages (in Rs)
1	2	3
Gardener	(a) Per month (whole-time)	125.00
	(b) Per month (part-time)	75.00
Chowkidar	Per month	125.00
Wood-cutter	Per maund (37.3 kg.) of wood turned into fuel	0.50
Herdsmen	(a) Per cow (per month)	5.00
	(b) Per buffalo (per month)	5.00
Porter	Per maund (37.3 kg.) of load carried for a mile (1.6 km.)	0.50
Casual labour	Per day	5.00
Domestic servant	(a) Per month without food	100.00
	(b) Per month with food	60.00

[continued

1	2	3
Carpenter	Per day	8.00
Blacksmith	Per day	10.00
Tailor	(a) Per cotton shirt (full sleeves) for men	3.00
	(b) Per cotton shirt (short sleeves) for women	2.00
	(c) Per cotton suit	45.00
	(d) Per woolen suit	85.00
Midwife	(a) For delivery of a boy	15.00
	(b) For delivery of a girl	10.00
Barber	(a) Per shave	0.25
	(b) Per hair-cut	1.00
Motor-driver	Per month	225.00
Truck-driver	Per month	225.00
Scavenger	For a house with one latrine for one cleaning per day	3.00

GENERAL LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT

According to the census of 1961 there were 2,66,944 cultivators and agricultural labourers in the district. The number of persons engaged in activities connected with live-stock, forestry, fishing, and hunting was 22,036. Only 5 persons were employed in mining and quarrying. Activities connected with the building of roads, bridges, tunnels, etc., engaged 5,631 persons, while 18,154 persons were employed in providing electricity, water, gas, and sanitation services. Trade and commerce offered employment to 28,406 persons, and transport, storage, and communications to 7,649. There were 83,171 persons engaged in various services, of which number public services employed 5,954 persons, educational and scientific services 4,366, medical and health services 1,952, religious and welfare services 1,157, legal services 367, recreational services 1,426, and the remaining were employed in the other services. The various manufacturing projects employed 66,125 persons, of whom 19,014 were engaged in the processing of food-grains, 12,074 in textiles, 6,606 in manufacture of wood products, 2,900 in paper industry, 2,901 in leather industry, 6,841 in non-metallic mineral products, 4,051 in basic metal products, and the remaining in other services.

Employers' Employees and Workers

According to the census of 1961 the number of employers, employees, single workers, and family workers (those who work in their own family without wages) in the non-household industries, and of employees and others in the household industries, are given in the following statements :

Non-household Industries

Type of worker		Urban	Rural	Total
Employer	Male	1,962	262	2,224
	Female	9	—	9
Employee	Male	16,575	20,994	37,569
	Female	984	1,492	2,476
Single worker	Male	22,232	78,142	1,00,374
	Female	1,276	7,432	8,708
Family worker	Male	3,680	6,292	9,972
	Female	1,286	3,375	3,661
Total	Male	44,449	1 05,690	1,50,139
	Female	2,555	12,299	14,854

Household Industries

Type of worker		Urban	Rural	Total
Employees	Male	36	1,557	1,593
	Female	7	297	304
Others	Male	5,486	40,571	44,057
	Female	1,543	9,996	11,539
Total	Male	3,522	42,128	45,650
	Female	1,550	10,293	11,843

Viewed against the total population of the district, the number of employees is not small, but it should be much more in an industrially developed country. The fact, therefore, remains that the district is predominantly agricultural.

Employment Trends

The following statement shows the employment potential in both private and public sectors in the district from 1966-67 to 1970-71 :

Year	No. of establishments			No. of employees		
	Private sector	Public sector	Total	Private sector	Public sector	Total
1966-67	167	83	250	6,455	15,543	21,998
1967-68	85	181	266	12,134	14,772	26,906
1968-69	224	84	303	13,170	15,202	28,372
1969-70	231	95	326	13,623	15,636	29,159
1970-71	226	139	365	13,732	16,526	30,258

The number of persons employed in 1968-69 and 1969-70 as given in the foregoing statement have been further divided according to their work in the following statement :

	No. of reporting establishments		No. of employees			
			1968-69		1969-70	
	1968-69	1969-70	Private sector	Public sector	Private sector	Public sector
Agriculture, live-stock, and fishing	4	4	—	872	—	882
Manufacturing	102	105	9,679	67	10,049	79
Construction	3	3	—	2,894	—	2,894
Water, electricity, and sanitary services	1	1	—	414	—	414
Trade and commerce	46	45	485	187	363	361
Transport, storage, and communications	5	5	150	4	150	4
Services, public, legal, medical, etc.	147	149	2,856	10,764	3,061	11,002
	308	312	13,170	15,202	13,623	15,636
				28,372		29,259

Employment of Women

The trend in the employment of women workers is given in the following statement which shows the number of women employed in the private and public sectors in 1970 :

	December, 1970
No. of reporting establishments	315
No. of women employed in private sector	415
No. of women employed in public sector	1,559
Total number of women employees	1,974
Percentage of women employees to total number of employees in private sector	2.95
Percentage of women employees to total number of employees in the public sector	9.15

The percentage of women workers in various categories of occupations in December 1970 is given in the following statement :

Categories	Percentage
Education	1.47
Medical and Health	0.62
Services	4.21
Trade and Commerce	0.015
Manufacturing	0.06

Unemployment

The figures for men and women who sought employment in different spheres during the quarter ending December 1970 were 2,635 and 79 respectively :

Educational standard	Men	Women	Total
Post-graduate	19	1	20
Graduate	356	7	363
Intermediate	955	30	985
Matriculate	1,305	41	1,346
Total	2,635	79	2,714

During that quarter the Central Government notified 7 vacancies to the Employment Exchange, the State Government 120, quasi-government establishments 13, local bodies 51, and private sector 25.

The district experienced shortage of trained and technical hands such as lady teachers (mainly home science and drawing

teachers), trained compounders, moulders, motor attendants, and crane drivers. Persons without previous experience and technical training were available in large numbers.

Employment Exchange

The Employment Exchange has been established in Muzaffarnagar to provide assistance to the unemployed and the employers of the district in finding suitable jobs and suitable candidates for jobs respectively. The following statement gives an idea of the assistance rendered by the Exchange during 1966 and 1970 :

Year	Vacancies notified by employers	No. of persons registered for employment	No. of live registers	Persons provided with employment
1966	989	8 580	3,929	678
1967	1,099	7,149	3,071	849
1968	866	6,857	2,748	329
1969	887	8,099	3 135	564
1970	1,094	9,773	4,119	671

The exchange introduced the employment market information scheme into the district in 1960 to find out quarterly from establishments in the public and private sectors, employing five or more persons, the number of posts under them that fall vacant during the quarter and the type of jobs for which the supply of qualified candidates was inadequate.

The Vocational Guidance and Employment Counselling Programme is also being carried on by the exchange to provide vocational guidance and employment counselling to boys and girls, in groups as well as individually, and to assist them to secure suitable jobs. In 1970, 4,376 candidates participated in 278 groups discussions and 94 individuals sought guidance.

NATIONAL PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Prior to the formation of the popular ministry in 1936, the development of the rural areas in the State attracted but scant attention of the government. The Congress ministry which came into office in the said year adopted a working scheme for their development by setting up a rural development department. The work of this department largely related to rural hygiene, construction of roads and panchayat-ghars, establishment of libraries, night schools for expansion of adult education, and to allied development activities.

In 1947, the rural development department was merged with the co-operative department and the district rural development association was replaced by the district development association, the latter being substituted by the district planning committee in 1952 with the district magistrate and the district planning officer

as its chairman and the secretary respectively. Besides the district magistrate and the district planning officer, the district planning committee is represented by the local members of the State Legislature and of Parliament.

The First Five-year Plan, however, began genuine and planned efforts to improve the condition of the people in the rural areas of the district. The re-oriented programme of rural development in the district was inaugurated on January 26, 1954, when the first community development block came into existence at Purqazi, followed by another at Une only a year later. These efforts were followed with equal zeal in the Second Plan (1956—61) with the same emphasis on industrialization.

With a view to including every village in the development programme, the district was divided into 14 development blocks to give effect to the plan scheme. In 1967 three of these blocks were abolished and so only 11 remain at present. The following statement gives some details about the blocks :

Tahsil	Name of block	Date of inauguration	Number of	
			Goan Sabhas	Nyaya panchayats
Muzaffarnagar	Muzaffarnagar	1-4-60	83	13
	Baghra	1-10-59	74	11
	Purqazi	26-1-54	61	10
Jansath	Jansath	4-4-58	63	9
	Khatauli	1-4-60	86	11
	Morna	26-1-56	53	9
Budhana	Budhana	1-5-57	74	11
	Kandhla	1-4-61	61	10
Kairana	Kairana	2-10-56	53	8
	Une	26-1-55	98	14
	Shamli	1-4-62	48	9

The Kshettra Samiti is responsible for all the development activities within a block. The block development officer is the executive officer of the Kshettra Samiti and looks after the development activities in his blocks. He is assisted by assistant development officers for agriculture, animal husbandry, co-operatives, panchayats, etc. At the village level, there is a multipurpose worker designated as Gram Sewak (village level worker) to work for all the development departments.

The First Five-year Plan laid stress on the people's participation in the development activities of the district, such, as the construction of village roads, culverts, drainage systems, school buildings, and the provision of drinking water. Tube-wells were installed, and other irrigation facilities were also augmented. The Second Five-year Plan, on the other hand, aimed at enhancing the national income by 25 per cent and at providing job facilities to the unemployed. During this period

many new co-operative societies were opened and encouragement was given for the establishment of new units of small-scale industries. To the field of agriculture also it paid no less attention, as schemes relating to soil conservation, adoption of Japanese method of paddy cultivation, expansion of the training in the use of improved agricultural implements, chemicals, and green manures were taken up.

The Third Five-year Plan, unlike the previous ones aimed mainly at reducing the disparity in the economic and social life of the people and at providing a minimum level of living to every family. Programmes of introducing intensive methods of wheat and paddy cultivation, crop protection, use of improved varieties of seeds, increase in double-cropped area, etc., were taken up. As a result of these programmes an increase of about 33 per cent in production was recorded.

The Fourth Five-year Plan, like the previous one, aimed at bringing about a steep rise in the growth of agricultural and industrial resources—a growth rate of 5 per cent in the agricultural sector, predominantly in food-grains (about 7 per cent) to achieve self-sufficiency in them, and an annual growth rate of over 8 per cent in industry, to open up new avenues of employment as also to minimise the imbalance between the rapid growth of population and the production of food-grains.

By the end of 1972, the many-sided achievements of these Plans became more than apparent in the economic life of the people of the district. The growth of new industries along with increased agricultural production has ushered in a new era of prosperity and better economic condition for the people of the district.

CHAPTER X

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Muzaffarnagar, today, constitutes one of the five districts of Meerut Division, with the commissioner's headquarters at Meerut. The office of the commissioner created in 1829 was initially designated as commissioner of revenue and circuit, vested with complete authority on all subjects. The creation of various departments subsequently at regional and State levels led to the transfer of several functions to regional officers. Still, the commissioner retains his pivotal position as a co-ordinating authority and acts as an important link between the districts in his division and the government. In all important matters, the collector has to address the government through him.

Matters relating to inter-district boundaries and general public welfare claim his close attention.

The commissioner hears appeals and revisions under the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act and the Anti-Goonda Act, etc. He is the chairman of the regional transport authority and has extensive supervisory authority over the local bodies. For planning and development work, he is assisted by a deputy or joint development commissioner, as the case may be, and for judicial work by one or more additional commissioners. He is also the controlling authority for the implementation of the master plan for the development of the urban areas in his division.

District Staff

The collector and district magistrate is the principal officer of the district. The status of the district officer has emerged as a guardian of public peace and welfare with the executive and magisterial functions blending into his duties. He is responsible for the proper execution and implementation of all government orders. To combat riots or disturbances, he orders magisterial postings during festivals and promulgates prohibitory orders to prevent any untoward happenings. The superintendent of police, though not directly subordinate to the collector, is second to him in status. The collector has to be kept informed of the crime situation in the district. He inspects police-stations and so do his subdivisional magistrates. During his yearly winter tours he acquaints himself with the interior of the district and the conditions of

the agriculturists, tests land records, and implements development schemes.

The collector is the *ex officio* district election officer. He organises elections for the Central and State legislatures as well as for the local bodies and Panchayats. He also holds the ultimate charge of the treasury. He acquires land for public purposes. He heads the department of civil supplies in the district and ensures equitable distribution of food-grains and other essential commodities through fair-price shops with the aid of the district supply officer. He plays a key role in planning and development activities in which he is assisted by the district planning officer.

The collector as *ex officio* president of the district soldiers' sailor's, and airmen's board looks after the welfare of ex-service-men as well as of the families of serving soldiers in the district.

There are four subdivisional magistrates (one for each subdivision) to assist the collector. The duties and powers of the subdivisional magistrates in his subdivision are similar to those of the collector and district magistrate. Apart from case work which mostly consists of revenue cases, he conducts identification proceedings and records dying declarations. He shares the responsibility for the correct maintenance of village maps and records of the rights of the people of his subdivision. Entries of changes in land revenue or rent, or transactions affecting the rights and interests of tenure-holders and the like are made under his orders. Floods and other calamities are some other matters which occasionally cast a heavy burden on him. He is also required to guide and help in development work being carried on in his subdivision.

The following other district level officers with their headquarters at Muzaffarnagar work under the administrative control of their departmental heads :

Additional district magistrate (Planning) who pools the following officers under his control :

- District organiser, small savings
- Assistant registrar, co-operative societies
- District Harijan and Samaj Kalyan Adhikari
- District agriculture officer
- District panchayat raj officer
- Assistant engineer, minor irrigation
- District statistics officer

District supply officer
District information officer
District industries officer
District family planning officer
District horticulture officer

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

Central Excise—The district falls within the jurisdiction of the assistant collector of the central excise with headquarters at Saharanpur. At the district level there is a superintendent stationed at Muzaffarnagar. For purposes of excise administration, the district is subdivided into the five ranges of Muzaffarnagar, Shamli, Khatauli, Miranpur, and Budhana, each of which is under the charge of an excise inspector.

Income-tax—For the purpose of income-tax collection, the district is placed under the charge of the income-tax officer-in-charge, Muzaffarnagar, who functions under the commissioner of income-tax, Kanpur. It is divided into three wards, namely, A, B, and C. The appellate assistant commissioner of income-tax, Dehra Dun, is the appellate authority.

Railways—The district is covered by the northern zone and comes under the jurisdiction of the divisional superintendent of Northern Railway, New Delhi. There are five railway stations in the district at Muzaffarnagar, Rohana Kalan, Kukra, Nulla, Mansurpur, and Khatauli, each under the charge of a station master. The Shahdara-Saharanpur Light Railway was closed on September 1, 1970. It has now been decided to revive it and convert it into a broad gauge line with stations at Thana Bhawan, Hind, Silawar, Shamli, Balwa, Khandraul, Kandhla, and Ailam. Work was started on it on December 3, 1973.

Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department

The district of Muzaffarnagar forms part of the Meerut postal division under the charge of a senior superintendent of post-offices who resides at Meerut. There are 242 post and telegraph offices in the district, of which 17 serve as public call offices. Telegraph services in both English and Hindi are available at 31 post-offices.

CHAPTER XI

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

Fiscal History

Details regarding the land system in ancient times are not available, making it somewhat difficult to ascertain the exact set-up of fiscal administration in the region covered by the present district of Muzaffarnagar before the Mauryan rule. On the basis of literary and epigraphical evidence, it may be said that free-holdings created by earlier rulers and respected by subsequent kings had existed. Some proof of the king's ownership of land in the Vedic period does appear, but it was a sort of gradation of ownership, the rights of the ruling authority being superimposed over those of the people without undue hindrance to their right to till, sow and reap, and to inherit or partition their land. This tract, forming a part of the kingdom of the Mauryas, the Guptas, and Harshawardhan was, in all probability, subjected to the usual system of revenue administration prescribed by the *Dharma Sutra*, viz., the duty of the peasant being to raise the crop and to make over a share of the produce directly to the king without any intermediary. Taxation was justified in return for the protection afforded by the king. According to the *Smritis*, the ruler's share varied from one-third to one-sixth of the produce. However, the *Arthashastra* of Kautilya prescribed one-quarter or even one-third for fertile lands. One-quarter was the share mostly levied in the reign of Ashoka. The payment was made in kind.

In the Pali texts reference is made to *Bammadayya*, meaning probably the royal gift of land to Brahmanas, wherein the donee had full rights over the grant. He controlled the use of fodder and firewood, claimed proprietary rights over the produce of the farms, and was exempted from the payment of taxes. Land grants of the post-Gupta period speak of the development of a feudal complex in this part as elsewhere northern India. Periodical settlements similar to those of later times, when tax was fixed in advance on the basis of the estimated yield of land, were apparently known and the land was surveyed. Remissions were granted for crop failures. The land was regarded as very sacred, being only heritable and not negotiable. Not even the king had exclusive proprietary rights over it.

It is difficult to ascertain when the Muslims firmly applied their system of revenue administration in this tract. The Muslim rule at Delhi dates from 1206 A.D., with Qutb-ud-din Aibak styling himself as sultan and ascending the throne but it is doubtful if he had any sway over the present territory of Muzaffarnagar. The fiscal administration obtaining during the Hindu period continued during the Muslim regime, only Arabic

or Persian names being given to some institutions or posts. In the Hindu period the village was the chief unit. The village headman was called the *gramadhipati*. His position continued under the Muslims, except that a bigger unit called *pargana* which comprised a group of villages was introduced, the *pargana* headman being called the *chaudhri* and the village accountant the *patwari*. Later, the village headman was re-named the *muqaddam* or *mukhiya* in place of the *gramadhipati*, and the *pargana* accountant became the *kanungo*.

The first recorded instance of the annexation of this tract dates back to the year 1217 A.D., when Shams-ud-din Iltutmish conquered the entire territory up to the Siwaliks. The Muslim conquerors, being primarily soldiers, were interested more in conquests and treasure than in any sort of organised administration. Originally the Muslims subjects were exempted from the payment of land tax (*kharaj*), but after religious conversions the rulers were forced to levy land-tax on them also.

Under Ala-ud-din Khalji (1296 A.D.—1310 A.D.) this tract was subjected to some measures of land reforms. He was apparently the first Muslim ruler whose hands reached as far as the records of the *patwari*¹, which were the best source for all data pertaining to the land and its ownership, crop, and revenue. He classified the land in this tract as *khalisa* (reserved land) which was managed by his revenue ministry through its officials, in direct relations with the peasant. The revenue demand was fixed exorbitantly at one-half of the produce assessed by measurement and collected, wholly or partly, in the form of grain. Under Mohammad Tughlaq (1325 A.D.—1351 A.D.), the doab was subjected to undue pressure and oppression owing to his fluctuating policies. Enhanced taxation led to repression, and such steps as the transfer of the capital from Delhi to Deogir in the Deccan in 1329 A.D., only resulted in reducing the cultivators to further impoverishment. In subsequent years the district was subjected to the invasion of Timur, the aftermath of which was disastrous to the district as to the country. It was apparently in a flourishing state on the eve of Babar's invasion in 1526 A.D. There was a *kanungo* from whom was ascertained the present, past, and the probable future state of the *pargana*'s revenue. It is uncertain whether the revenue demand was fixed for a village or for a *pargana*, but the individual method of assessment was the same. This tract finds no mention in the annals of the Suri rule.

During Akbar's reign (1556—1605 A.D.), the district formed part of the *sirkars* of Saharanpur and Delhi in the *subah* of Delhi. His revenue minister, Todar Mal, is famous for his reforms in revenue administration and the introduction of a land revenue system. The land was measured and the revenue was fixed at one-third of the produce. The revenue year, called the *Fasli*

1. Tripathi, R. P. (Ed. II) : *Some Aspects of Muslim Administration* (Allahabad, 1959) p. 263

year, lasting from July to June was introduced. It is still followed in these parts.

The statistics of the *Ain-i-Akbari* point towards developed agrarian conditions prevailing in this tract, although no specific details are available regarding the fiscal history of the district during the reigns of either Akbar or of his successors.

The period intervening the death of Aurangzeb in 1707 A.D. and the advent of the British in 1803 in this part, witnessed the rise of the Saiyids, the Sikhs, and the Marathas as temporary rulers, ever busy in self-aggrandizement through irregular levies and hardly concerned with any systematic fiscal administration or land Settlement.

The early British administrators mostly adhered to the policy adopted by the Moghul rulers of settling villages with lessees. They, however, did not allow the revenue to vary annually according to the harvest, but fixed the demand for a fixed term of Settlement.

The first triennial Settlement took place in 1805—1808 A.D. The revenue assessed was quite high, necessitating remission or suspension in some cases.

The second triennial Settlement (1808—1811 A.D.) led to many transfers and much distress owing to inherent defects or accidents of seasons, or the rigid revenue system, or to all these combined. Its period was extended by four years ending in 1815, following which a quinquennial settlement was undertaken from 1815 to 1820 A.D. Its period was also extended for a further five years in 1818. It was during this time that the nucleus of the present district was formed by making Muzaffarnagar the headquarters of a separate sub-collectorship to emerge two years later as the charge of a full-fledged collector and magistrate.

The next Settlement of 1825 brought some enhancement in rates of rent to finance the wars undertaken by the East India Company.

The Settlement operations of 1830 were supervised by the collector himself. Though intended originally to last for five years it remained in force till 1840. This Settlement aimed at unification rather than enhancement of rates, except in one pargana, Pur Chhappar, where the increase in demand was remitted a few years later.

The First Regular Settlement of 1840—Operations for the first regular Settlement under Regulation IX of 1833 began as early as 1836, when measurements commenced. The entire district was remeasured in 1838, soil was classified into circles, and assessment was based on average rent rates related to the value of produce and the mode of partition. This Settlement was confirmed for a period of 20 years. The assessment, following so

closely after the terrible drought of 1838, was obviously influenced by the after-effects of the calamity and suffered from several defects.

Upto 1839, land revenue was realized in eight or nine instalments. This led to confusion in the preparation of accounts. Also, as some revenue instalments fell due before the harvest, it caused hardship to cultivators. Circular No. 11 of January 11, 1840, fixed the number of instalments at four per year, allowing the cultivators to sell produce for payment of land revenue. The system of cultivators' joint responsibility for the unpaid revenue was abolished. The shares of different members of the village community were clearly recorded and each defaulter was penalized individually for non-payment. The total annual land revenue of the district amounted to Rs 11,19,839.

The Second Regular Settlement of 1860—The district had not recovered from the great upheaval of 1857 and the accompanying famine and pestilence when the operations for Settlement for next 30 years began in April, 1860. The annual demand was fixed at Rs 11,40,644, which registered an actual increase of Rs 20,805 on the previous assessment, and was attributed to extension in cultivated and irrigated area and resumption of revenue-free grants.

Collection of land revenue during the currency of this Settlement was smooth except in the waste and waterlogged tracts of the Ganga *khadir*. At the beginning of the Settlement in 1860, arrears which had accumulated made it necessary to suspend recovery of an amount of Rs 1,30,000. At the close of 1862 about 8 per cent of the entire revenue was in arrears, and in the subsequent year remissions were granted to the extent of Rs 30,000. Once these arrears were cleared, land revenue was collected with ease and punctuality. The district was exposed to the danger of famine twice during this Settlement, once in 1869 when the autumn rains failed, and a second time in 1878 when a severe drought prevailed.

The Third Regular Settlement—The third regular Settlement was completed in 1892 for 30 years. It covered almost the whole district, fixing the revenue at Rs 15,55,576 per annum. Correction of maps and village records had been started in January, 1887. Revision of records was difficult because of inaccurate village statements leading to recasting of rent-rolls. The expenditure incurred on the operations was balanced by the enhanced revenue collected in the very first year of the new Settlement.

The Fourth Regular Settlement of 1922—The next thirty years' operations in the district were carried on during 1918—1921. The comprehensive Settlement report shows that the cultivation had become more extensive as well as intensive and so the demand could be fixed at Rs 20,27,002. The increase of Rs 4,71,426 reflected the agricultural prosperity which the district had attained. On the expiry of this Settlement in July 1952, the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act was enforced, introducing numerous changes in the revenue administration of the district, as elsewhere in the State.

Relation between Landlord and Tenant

Land system in ancient India was so simple and conducive to agricultural production that it could hardly embitter relations between the landlord and the tenant. Territorial aggrandizement by Muslim adventurers, followed by their attempt to settle down and consolidate power, gave rise to a plethora of problems regarding landholding, assessment, Settlements, and rights of the cultivating communities. Rulers such as Ala-ud-din Khalji, Sher Shah, and Akbar, no doubt, adopted measures to lay down a sound policy of land management, but frequent spells of misrule following their reigns brought more misery than relief to the peasantry.

The zamindars under the Moghuls were functionaries of the State administration inasmuch as they were mere agents for collecting land revenue. Initially their office was neither proprietary nor hereditary, but after the fall of the Moghul empire and with the rise of the British power in India, it assumed both these rights.

The East India Company on acquiring the territory of Muzaffarnagar followed the existing land system. It expected the zamindars to be benevolent, kind, and helpful to the cultivators, and to aid in bringing more areas under the plough, enriching soil, improving agriculture, and augmenting the material wealth of the tract. But these expectations were belied. Obviously they could not fulfil their fiscal obligations because they were assessed exorbitantly and had to pay up with unfailing punctuality without any claim for remission on account of drought, inundation, or any other calamity. Under these circumstances the zamindars were compelled to transfer their sufferings to the tenants who thus received an oppressive and tyrannical treatment at the hands of the landholders, mostly in collusion with the *patawaris* and the *kanungos* who acted under the influence of the zamindars.

The government always came to the rescue of the zamindars whenever they were in trouble concerning the security of its income, not by reducing the revenue but by strengthening the powers to effect recovery. No definite principles of tenants' rights or tenancy laws existed till the national upsurge of 1857.

Act X of 1859 followed by Act XVIII of 1873 recognised the rights of tenants to occupy land. The Land Improvement Act of 1883 and the Agricultural Loans Act of 1884 provided further relief to indigent cultivators who had fallen a prey to the avarice of the money-lender. The tenancy legislation in the province of Agra was separate from the laws obtaining in Avadh. It was only in 1939 that a further, and the most important, step was taken in so far as a uniform tenancy legislation was undertaken both for Agra and Avadh. The U. P. Tenancy Act, 1939, was more favourable to the tenants, the law in respect of devolution being made more elaborate and restrictions being imposed on ejectments. Tenants of *sir* had been given a certain tenure for five years during which they could not be ejected except for non-payment of rent. Tenants were also given right to make

improvements on their land, for which the consent of the landholder was not necessary. They could also build houses on their land for their residence and sheds for their cattle. The tenants' rights also became heritable, and all tenants who were not either tenants of *sir* or sub-tenants became hereditary tenants—with rights of succession from father to son. The fear of enhancement except at the time of the settlement and up to the fair standard rates fixed by the settlement officers, was completely done away with. However, this Act was only a halfway measure because the tenancies were not transferable in the absence of ownership. Tenants were not benefited substantially till the whole structure of the tenure system was changed and the body of persons who interposed between the State and the cultivators was eliminated—a measure that came into being with the passing of the U. P. Agricultural Tenants (Acquisition of Privileges) Act, 1949, followed by the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950, (Act No. 1 of 1951).

LAND REFORMS

Abolition of Zamindari

The U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act of 1950 which was enforced in the district on July 1, 1952, brought an end of the intermediaries and re-established direct relationship between the tiller and the State. The rights of zamindars in *abadi* land (inhabited sites) *parti* (fallow land), *banjar* (barren land), etc., were abolished and the rights of actual tillers enhanced. The Act reduced multiplicity of tenures and secured the cultivator's ownership of the land, thus providing incentive for improvement. Compensation was to be paid to the zamindars and ten times of the annual rent was charged from the tenants in order to give them Bhumidhari rights over their holdings. Those who could not pay the amount did not get proprietary rights over their lands and could only till them. Sub-letting, except in cases of disability as defined under the Act, was prohibited.

There are three types of cultivators now, *bhumidhars*, *sirdars*, and *asamis*. Bhumidhars have full proprietary rights. A *sirdar* can also acquire Bhumidhari rights in his holding by paying to the government a sum equal to twenty times his annual rent. Land vests in the Gaon Sabhas now and is administered by the Bhumi Prabandhak Samiti, which is its land management committee. The tenants holding Gaon Sabha land are known as *asamis*. The Act guaranteed compensation to all ex-zamindars and a rehabilitation grant to those whose land revenue did not exceed Rs 10,000. The total amount of compensation assessed was Rs 25,36,409 in cash and bonds, and has been disbursed in full to the intermediaries. Upto June 1973, the entire amount of Rs 1,86,44,361 in cash and bonds had also been paid out as rehabilitation grant.

In 1972-73, the tahsilwise area under different classes of tenure in the district was as follows :

Kind of tenure	Name of tahsil			
	Budhana	Jansath	Kairana	Muzaffarnagar
	Area (in hectares)	Area (in hectares)	Area (in hectares)	Area (in hectares)
Bhumidhar	51,693	70,674	68,964	76,277
Sirdar	12,504	21,284	20,186	22,830
Asami	137	217	117	248

Collection of Land Revenue—After the abolition of Zamindari the government introduced direct collection of revenue from *bhumidhars*, *sirdars*, and *asamis*, through the agency of *amins* whose work is supervised by *naib-tahsildars*, *tahsildars*, and sub-divisional officers. The ultimate responsibility for recovery lies with the collector.

Commencing from 1952, for some period, the government had appointed a district collection officer to look after this work, but subsequently his post was abolished in 1958. The district's demand of principal dues in 1974 recovered as arrears of land revenue was as follows :

Main dues	Total demand (in Rs)
Land Revenue	19,89,038
Vikas Kar	29,72,081
Irrigation	1,61,56,444
Vrihat Jot Kar	17,309
Takavi XII	3,50,175
Takavi XIX	3,24,317

The U. P. Consolidation of Holdings Act, 1953, came into force in 1954 to prevent fragmentation of holdings and the consequent loss to agricultural production. The object was also to consolidate a person's holdings and to re-plan the village. Suitable places

were reserved for works of public utility, and *chak* roads were laid out to provide approaches to the holdings in the village. Consolidation operations were started in 196 villages of tahsil Kairana on 15th July, 1954. The scheme was enforced in Budhana tahsil on November 17, 1956, covering 132 villages; in Muzaffarnagar tahsil on March 22, 1958, involving 223 villages; and in Jansath tahsil on May 16, 1963, embracing 230 villages.

The tahsilwise total area under consolidation upto July 1972 was as under :

Name of tahsil	Total number of villages	Area consolidated (in hectares)
Kairana	196	71,560
Budhana	131	50,355
Muzaffarnagar	221	76,150
Jansath	230	77,310

Urban—Abolition of zamindari in respect of agricultural lands in the urban areas of the district was achieved after the enactment of the U. P. Urban Areas Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1956. (Act IX of 1957). Upto June, 1975, a sum of Rs 2,05,868 was assessed as compensation, of which Rs 1,46,600 have been paid.

Imposition of Ceilings on Land Holdings

To effect a more even distribution of land, the U. P. Imposition of Ceilings on Land Holdings Act, 1960 (Act I of 1961), was enforced in the district on January 3, 1963. By a later amendment brought into force on June 8, 1973, the maximum size of the holding of a tenant was fixed at 7.30 hectares of irrigated land, with an additional 2 hectares per member if the number in family exceeded five, subject to a maximum of 6 hectares. All the land declared surplus would vest in the State Government. Compensation would be paid to the landholder concerned. The operation of the recent amendment has affected 894 landholders, and an area of 2,243 hectares being declared surplus under the amended Act is being settled. An amount of Rs 2,86,200 was assessed as compensation, of which Rs 2,73,070 were paid upto March 31, 1972.

Bhoodan

The Bhoodan movement of Acharya Vinoba Bhave was initiated in Uttar Pradesh in 1951 with the object of obtaining land for the landless. By 1971, an area of 319 hectares was received

in this district as a gift for the landless and 306 hectares were distributed among 270 landless persons. The movement did not catch the imagination of the people. Its effect was only nominal.

Administration of Taxes other than Land Revenue

In this district, as elsewhere in the State, sources of revenue include certain Central and State taxes.

Central Taxes

The important Central taxes are central excise, income-tax and estate duty.

Central Excise—An assistant collector of the central excise and his team with headquarters at Saharanpur, exercises jurisdiction over the district. The revenue realised from chief commodities in 1970-71 is given below :

Commodity	Revenue (in Rs)
Khandsari sugar	19,04,728
Vegetable product	26,268
Iron steel product	5,11,617
P. P. Food	5,36,957
Tobacco	8,71,287

Income-tax—One income-tax officer is posted at Muzaffarnagar. He also looks after wealth tax and gift tax. The following amount was collected in the district during 1971 and 1972 :

Year	Income-tax		Wealth tax		Gift tax	
	No. of assessees	Amount Rs	No. of assessees	Amount Rs	No. of assessees	Amount Rs
1971-72	5,565	39,000	233	1,25,000	65	12,000
1972-73	4,733	52,19,000	244	2,10,000	106	28,000

Estate Duty—This duty is levied on the property left by a deceased as required by the Estate Duty Act, 1953. The district falls under the jurisdiction of the assistant controller, estate duty, Dehra Dun. The following amounts were assessed as estate duty in the district between 1966-67 and 1970-71 :

Year	No. of assessees	Amount (in Rs)
1966-67	127	6,18,000
1967-68	134	5,83,000
1968-69	53	5,72,000
1969-70	225	11,24,000
1970-71	357	26,00,000

State Taxes

Excise, sales tax, stamp and registration, motor vehicles, entertainment tax, etc., are other sources of State revenue.

Excise

Excise has been one of the most important sources of State revenue in the district since the beginning of the British rule. It is chiefly realised from the sale of liquor. Administration of excise duty in Muzaffarnagar is the charge of the collector and district magistrate, assisted by the district excise officer stationed at Muzaffarnagar.

Liquor—The number of liquor shops for retail sale in the district in 1972 was 41. There are three licensed dealers for Indian-made foreign liquor. The consumption of country liquor in 1970 to 1971-72 was as follows :

Year	Quantity (in A.I.)
1970-71	1,55,399.1
1971-72	1,55,899.1

The income derived from the auction of country liquor shops in the last three years was as follows :

Year	Country liquor (in Rs)
1971-72	50,36,264
1972-73	68,01,646
1973-74	81,06,159

Hemp Drugs—The hemp drugs, viz., ganja, charas, and bhang constituted important items of excise revenue in the past. The use of charas is abandoned now and the sale of ganja has been

stopped. Licences for retail sale of bhang are granted by the collector by annual auction. There are 14 bhang shops in the district. The sale of bhang was 1,215 kg in 1970-71, which went upto 1,229 kg. in 1971-72, yielding a revenue of Rs 22,205.

Sales Tax—Sales tax is levied under the U. P. Sales Tax Act, 1948, and the Central Sales Tax Act, 1957. The amount realised as tax on important commodities such as *Kirana* bricks, food-grains, kerosene oil, oil seeds, timber, drugs, etc., during the five years ending 1973-74 was as follows :

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1969-70	1,38,44,667
1970-71	1,12,18,254
1971-72	1,49,37,837
1972-73	2,14,97,361
1973-74	2,54,49,076

Stamps and Registration

Stamp duty was originally introduced by the British to discourage the unusually large number of law-suits in the courts and for earning revenue from civil litigants, affixation of stamps being required in legal proceedings and in courts of law only. Later on, use of stamp was made obligatory for business transactions, such as receipts, hand-notes, bills of exchange, bonds, etc. Similarly legal documents and sale deeds for the transfer of property also had to be written on stamped papers.

Under the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, stamps are classified as judicial and non-judicial, the former are used to pay court-fees and the latter have to be affixed on bills of exchange in token of defraying duty on documents and receipts, etc. The income from stamps include fines and penalties imposed under the Indian Stamp Act of 1899 (Act 11 of 1899).

The receipts during the five years ending 1970-71 were as follows :

Year	Receipts (in Rs) from stamps	
	Judicial	Non-judicial
1966-67	6,29,741	17,14,496
1967-68	7,42,648	23,52,626
1968-69	10,70,279	23,27,195
1969-70	7,96,884	28,01,417
1970-71	9,20,962	32,58,712

The district judge Muzaffarnagar, is the district registrar. There are four sub-registrars in the district, one at each tahsil.

The following statement shows the income from registration between 1968-69 and 1972-73 :

Year	Income (in Rs)
1968-69	7,65,304
1969-70	7,61,939
1970-71	9,40,542
1971-72	13,79,091
1972-73	9,30,322

Taxes on Motor Vehicles

All motor vehicles are liable to taxation under the U. P. Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1935, and the Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1939. The regional transport officer, Meerut, is in charge of the district. The net collection from these sources in 1970-71 amounted to Rs 1,32,30,189 in this region.

Under the provisions of the U. P. Motor Vehicles (Yatri-kar) Adhiniyam, 1962, a tax was imposed on passengers travelling in public or private motor vehicles plying on hire. The collection under this head in the whole region amounted to Rs 62,24,559 in 1970-71.

The Motor Gadi (Mal kar) Adhiniyam, 1964, provides for the levy of a tax on goods carried by motor vehicles, an amount of Rs 46,13,029 being collected in the whole region in 1970-71.

Entertainment and Betting Tax

This tax is imposed on all paid public entertainment and betting. Cinema houses collect the biggest amount of this tax. The following statement shows the amount realised between 1969-70 and 1973-74 :

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1969-70	18,82,400
1970-71	22,90,925
1971-72	25,84,507
1972-73	31,62,265
1973-74	38,10,038

CHAPTER XII

LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

LAW AND ORDER

In the days of yore, when the region covered by the present district of Muzaffarnagar formed a part of the domains of the Hastinapur, the Mauryas, the Guptas, and Harshwardhan, the responsibility for suppression of crime and maintenance of peace within a village was collectively placed on villagers. The system worked well in keeping at bay the undesirable elements. 'Rakshaks' in addition, were appointed in each village to guard the public property, and in case of failure they were held personally liable to make good the loss. This institution was well organised in the reign of Chandragupta Maurya. With the growth of the feudal order, responsibility for keeping peace devolved on the landlords, but the body of Rakshaks was retained. During the Muslim rule, kotwals were appointed in the towns and were paid a monthly sum out of which they were required to maintain a staff of chowkidars and peons. In the 16th century, when the present area of the district was included in the Saharanpur sirkar, it was the duty of the *faujdar* to maintain the peace, keep the roads free from robbers and thieves, and enforce imperial regulations. To assist him, thanadars were placed in charge of the thanas. From 1707 A. D., the area covered by the present district, as indeed the whole of the upper doab, was in a state of permanent disorder for nearly a century on account of the inroads of the Rohillas, Sikhs, and Marathas. At that time a number of tribes in this tract, namely, Sansiyas, Bauriyas, Gujars, Kanjars and Nats indulged in all sorts of criminal acts.

The British acquired this portion of the doab in 1803, and a separate police force for the specific purposes of law and order was raised. Escorts and guards were supplied from the army, special patrols were maintained for road and river traffic and a small force for the detection of crimes was kept at police-stations. In the beginning, police work was performed by revenue officials. The magistrate and collector in the district headed the police force. He had tahsildars to assist him who were made to supervise the police in their tahsils. A number of thanas were placed under the charge of tahsildars. The police, however, did not function properly. The concentration of judicial, police, and administrative functions in the magistrate and collector made him heavily overworked. It was natural for tahsildars, being mainly revenue officers, to neglect their police duties. The watch and ward work was performed very inefficiently by the village watchmen who were servants of the landholders, and it all resulted in much chaos and confusion.

The years following 1857 brought to the fore the difficulties and drawbacks of the police organisation. An effort was, therefore, made to organise it on a regular basis. The British administration felt that responsibility for policing the country must devolve upon the provincial government, and that it was for it to maintain a paid force for this purpose. In 1860, the government appointed a committee, the recommendations of which were followed by the promulgation of the Police Act (Act V of 1861), still in operation with minor modifications. The Act introduced a uniform system. In the district there was to be a superintendent of police at the head of the district police force. The district was divided into a number of police circles which were further subdivided into thanas (police-stations), which numbered 18 in 1903. Each thana was under a subinspector.

Incidence of Crime

An analysis of the crime figures of the district pertaining to the five years ending 1973, reveals that highway robbery, burglary, cycle theft, pick-pocketing, murder, rape, and other social offences are on the increase.

The average number of murders committed is about 67 per cent. most of the cases being connected with property. Misunderstanding at local elections, personal jealousies, and persistent litigation also contributed their share.

The number of dacoities committed averaged about 58 per annum. During these years seven organised gangs of dacoits operated in the district but most of them have since been liquidated. The average number of robberies committed in the district was about 114 per year. The cases generally involved petty incidents in which people returning from village markets were waylaid and relieved of their merchandise and cash. The number of thefts, including those in which cycles and cattle were lost, averaged 1,153 per annum; the highest figure being 1,502 in 1970. The number of house-breaking cases committed averaged about 554 per year. Riots are more common in the rural than in the urban areas of the district, personal animosities and disputes over possession of land being primarily responsible for them. The average number of riots occurring in the district was about 181 per year.

Statistics of serious crimes for the years between 1969 and 1973 are given below :

Crime	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
1	2	3	4	5	6
Murder					
Reported	62	47	48	80	98
Convicted	12	18	7	8	2
Acquitted	16	23	12	19	4

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Dacoity						
Reported	30	61	81	47	69	
Convicted	6	16	10	3	—	
Acquitted	8	17	26	4	1	
Robbery						
Reported	41	115	166	118	132	
Convicted	12	12	12	6	—	
Acquitted	8	5	15	8	2	
Theft						
Reported	869	1,502	1,382	1,139	875	
Convicted	90	72	84	66	5	
Acquitted	25	14	54	19	—	
House-breaking						
Reported	398	660	694	578	459	
Convicted	115	50	49	32	3	
Acquitted	31	16	28	12	—	
Riot						
Reported	105	175	199	189	235	
Convicted	22	37	34	32	—	
Acquitted	5	11	23	11	1	

Organisation of Police

At present the district is included in the police range, Meerut, under the charge of a deputy inspector-general of police with headquarters at Meerut. The district police administration is headed by a superintendent of police who is responsible for its efficiency, discipline, and for the proper performance of its duties. The police force is divided into two broad divisions, the civil and the armed police.

Civil Police—The duties of the civil police are watch and ward, maintenance of law and order, prevention, detection, and investigation of crime, and service of summons as well attending to other processes of law courts.

To secure a systematic and speedy functioning of the police, the district has been divided into three circles—Sadar (city), Jansath, and Shamli, each under the charge of a gazetted officer of the rank of a deputy superintendent of police. Each circle is subdivided into a number of police-stations which have broadly been demarcated on the basis of area and population, and located in important villages, towns, and cities. The police-stations and out-posts, circlewise, are indicated below :

Police circle	Police-station	Out-post
1. Sadar (city)	Kotwali Titawi Purqazi Budhana	Akbari, Khalapar, Civil lines, Naimandi Charthawal Purqazi
2. Jansath	Jansath Khatauli Miranpur Bhopa	Jansath Khatauli Ramraj Shukartal
3. Shamli	Shamli Kairana Bhawan Jhijnjhana Kandhla	Shamli Imamgate-Qilagate Bhawan Chausana Bawaria colony Kandhla Gageru

The Kotwali, or the main police-station at the district headquarters, is under the charge of an inspector assisted by 8 sub-inspectors, 3 head constables, and 25 constables. The other police-stations are each staffed by 2 to 5 subinspectors assisted by 1 to 4 head constables and 10 to 60 constables.

The superintendent of police has also under him a local intelligence unit consisting of 5 subinspectors, 7 head constables, and 10 constables whose function is to keep track of political moves as also of anything else likely to subvert law and order or the safety of the society.

Armed Police—The duties of the armed police are to furnish guards and escorts, to suppress and prevent disorder and crimes of violence, to maintain the peace in disturbed areas and to protect government property, treasuries, and vital communications. The armed police is stationed at the reserve police lines at the headquarters of the district. Its sanctioned strength is one reserve inspector, one sub-inspector, 42 head constables, and 185 constables.

Prosecution Staff—To help the district police in the conduct of cases in the courts, there is a prosecution branch which has been separated from the regular police and placed under the

charge of the district magistrate since April 1, 1974. It consists of a public prosecutor and 8 assistant public prosecutors. They are to conduct proceedings on behalf of the State before magistrates, and also to advise the investigating officers on legal matters arising in the course of investigation of crimes.

Village Police

The village chowkidars, who are part-time servants, are the only police agency in the villages. Their main duty is watch and ward, but they are also required to help during investigations. They are appointed by the district magistrate, and control and supervision over them rests with the superintendent of police.

Village Defence Societies

The village defence societies are purely non-official organisations set up to protect villagers, especially against dacoits. The members are trained to stand up against undesirable elements in the society in defence of life and property. There were 659 such societies in the district in 1972.

Government Railway Police

There is an out-post located at the Muzaffarnagar railway station with jurisdiction over the railway stations of Khatauli, Mansurpur, and Rehana Kalan and is under the charge of a head constable assisted by 8 constables. It falls in the Moradabad section of the G. R. P. The staff maintains law and order at these railway stations, controls passenger traffic, assists the railway magistrates on duty in the prevention of ticketless travel, and deals with crimes in the railway area under its jurisdiction.

Jails and Lock-ups

District Jail—The entire edifice of jail administration as it exists in the district today is of British origin. At present the district jail is under the charge of a jailor who is assisted by a deputy jailor and three assistant jailors. The control over the administration of jail is exercised by the inspector-general of prisons, U. P., Lucknow. The jail hospital is looked after by a whole-time doctor, called assistant medical officer, the chief medical officer of the district being the superintendent. The district jail had accommodation for 300 persons in 1971. The daily average population in it since 1967 is as follows :

Year	Convicts	Under-trials
1967	113.07	223.66
1968	126.56	232.36
1969	125.13	253.13
1970	142.12	256.78
1971	153.13	279.84

Welfare of Prisoners—Prisoners and undertrials were formerly divided into three categories 'A', 'B', and 'C', but since 1948 they are classified only as 'superior' and 'ordinary'. Conditions of life in the district jail have improved considerably after Independence with the introduction of added amenities. Regular wages are paid to the inmates for the work they do in jail, apart from an allowance from relatives for personal needs. They are encouraged to learn the three R's and read newspapers, books, and periodicals from the jail library as also to take part in other constructive activities. Facilities for recreation, indoor and outdoor games, cultural and social activities, and religious discourses are also provided. Manufacture of *niwar* (wide, thick cotton tape used as webbing of beds) and articles of *moonj* are the chief industries in which the prisoners are engaged.

Visitors—The ex officio visitors of the jail are the director of medical and public health services, U. P., the commissioner of the Meerut Division, the district and sessions judge, and the district magistrate. All the members of the State and Central legislatures belonging to the district, all members of the standing committee of the State legislature on jails, the chairman of the Central committee of the Uttar Pradeshiya Apradh Nirodhak Samiti, the chairman of the municipal board, Muzaffarnagar and the Adhyaksha Zila Parishad are non-official visitors of the jail whose number is fixed at 16, the term being 2 years.

Lock-ups—Lock-ups for both, male and female are located on the premises of the collectorate for the custody of under-trials brought from the jail to courts to attend the hearing of their cases, and for persons sentenced to imprisonment by the courts till they are finally taken to the district jail. Lock-ups are supervised by the public prosecutor under the overall control of the district magistrate. At each police-station also there is a lock-up under the charge of the station officer.

At the headquarters of each tahsil there is a revenue lock-up, usually a small room to detain persons arrested for non-payment of government dues. Such defaulters may be detained for a maximum period of 14 days at a time.

Probation

While the concept of probation as a method of extra-mural treatment of offenders has been known to the country for almost 75 years, the recognition of probation as a more effective weapon to tackle the problem of the criminal and his rehabilitation has been more recent and widely accepted during the past two decades.

The probation scheme was introduced in the district in July, 1959, under the U. P. First Offenders' Probation Act, 1938. A probation officer works under the administrative control of the district magistrate. The U. P. First Offenders' Probation Act, 1938, provides for the release of an offender who is below 24 years of age and is convicted for an offence not punishable with

more than six months' imprisonment, provided no previous conviction is proved against him. The probation officer supervises the activities and conduct of those released on probation, ensures that they observe the conditions of the bonds executed by them, and makes reports regarding them to the courts concerned. In 1971, 907 juvenile convicts were under the supervision of the probation officer in the district.

JUSTICE

Till the British introduced their judicial system and established two courts of *munsifs* at Muzaffarnagar and Shamli, justice was dispensed according to the Muhammadan laws in this region as in other neighbouring parts. The *qazi* (judge) was the administrator of Islamic law, both civil and criminal, based on Qoranic dictum.

By the year 1898, sufficient uniformity in the substantive and procedural laws of the country was achieved by the passing of the Indian Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure.

To cope with the enormous increase in litigation work the judicial staff was further strengthened in 1903. Two *munsifs* worked at Muzaffarnagar and Kairana. There were three benches of honorary magistrates in the towns of Muzaffarnagar, Kairana, and Kandhla, while two honorary magistrates functioned at Jansath and Jauli.

By 1915, there were four full-fledged subdivisional magistrates and one assistant collector with first-class powers. A full-time additional subordinate judge who held his court at Meerut was appointed exclusively to decide cases belonging to Muzaffarnagar district. There was also an additional district and sessions judge. In 1923, the court of the additional subordinate judge was transferred to Muzaffarnagar.

In 1933-34, in addition to seven special magistrates, there were seven benches of honorary magistrates and ten assistant collectors in the district.

Criminal Justice

The district of Muzaffarnagar was taken out of the jurisdiction of Meerut judgship and assigned a separate judgship from August 15, 1956.

The sessions judge is the highest criminal authority of the district and has power to inflict the death penalty, subject to confirmation by the high court. He is assisted by three temporary sessions judges, one chief judicial magistrate, and two judicial magistrates. Two *munsifs* and one additional *munsif* have been invested with first-class magisterial powers to try criminal cases.

Details of the criminal cases committed to the sessions in the years 1971, 1972, and 1973 are given below :

Nature of offence	No. of cases committed to sessions		
	1971	1972	1973
Affecting life	66	82	121
Kidnapping and forcible abduction	16	10	8
Hurt	13	17	24
Rape	8	10	8
Unnatural offence	—	2	2
Robbery and dacoity	38	31	60
Offences by or relating to public servants	2	1	1
False evidence	1	1	—
Theft	—	1	3
Breach of trust	6	13	2
Recovery of stolen property	1	1	—
Cheating	—	1	—
Mischief	4	2	7
Criminal trespass	9	2	10
Prevention of Corruption Act	—	—	2
Arms Act	6	4	3
Essential Commodity Act	—	1	—

Details of the persons tried and sentenced in criminal cases during the three years ending 1973 by the Muzaffarnagar judgeship are given below :

Persons tried/sentenced	1971	1972	1973
Persons tried	25,951	29,607	35,510
Death sentence	1	2	1
Life imprisonment	86	18	33
Rigorous imprisonment	346	876	747
Simple imprisonment	33	875	149
Fined only	3,131	1,825	1,369
Other punishment	368	—	—

Executive Magistrates

According to the new Code of Criminal Procedure enforced from 18th April, 1974, the district magistrate has become the chief executive magistrate of the district. He is assisted by an additional district magistrate at the headquarters. Four subdivisional magistrates stationed at Muzaffarnagar, Jansath, Budhana, and Kairana and several other subordinates also function as magistrates.

The position regarding cognizable crimes under I.P.C. and other special Acts in the years from 1966 to 1970 was as follows :

Year	cases reported to police	Cases investigated	Cases sent to courts	Cases pending	Cases disposed of		
					convicted	discharged or acquitted	Com. found
1966	2162	1915	300	403	447	190	39
	765	765	666	401	896	107	
1967	2615	2287	491	300	326	143	26
	1778	1734	1593	666	1690	90	
1968	2242	2006	632	421	286	134	49
	2004	2047	1659	632	1854	120	
1969	2090	1997	1228	632	332	135	53
	2021	2041	1832	659	1751	89	
1970	3281	2729	881	971	320	125	51
	1661	1692	902	852	1503	90	

N. B.—The numerator represents the number of offences under I.P.C. and the denominator that of offences under special Acts.

Besides the district judge there are three civil judges in the district who exercise equal powers with him. All of them have unlimited powers on the original side in civil matters and powers of hearing revisions in cases tried by the court of small causes. Further, they have powers to hear certain other cases for which jurisdictions have been conferred upon them by various other Acts and statutes. The two *munsifs* and one additional *munsif* dispose of regular civil suits up to a valuation of Rs. 5,000, and also dispose of cases from the court of small causes up to a valuation of Rs. 500.

The position of case work in civil courts in the year 1973 was as follows :

Cases	Number
Pending at the beginning of the year	4,852
Instituted during the year	2,819
Restored during the year	393
Remanded during the year	48
Suits disposed of during the year	3,136
Pending at the end of the year	4,967

In the same year the number of suits involving immovable property was 1,382, and those involving money and movable property concerning matrimony and relating to mortgage were 1,435.

The number of suits instituted in 1973 according to valuation were as follows :

Valuation	Number of suits
Not exceeding Rs 100	18
Exceeding Rs 100 but not Rs 1,000	1,344
Exceeding Rs 1,000 but not Rs 5,000	1,022
Exceeding Rs 5,000 but not Rs 10,000	278
Exceeding Rs 10,000	157

The total valuation of the property in the suits so instituted was Rs 16,61,710.

Details of the disposal of suits in the year 1973 were as follows :

Manner of disposal	Number of suits
Disposed of after trial	728
Dismissed in default	795
Otherwise decided without trial	175
Suits decided ex-parte	891
On admission of claims	49
Settled by compromise	495
Reference to arbitration	3

The position of appeals instituted and disposed of in the district in the year 1973 was as follows :

Nature of appeals	Instituted	Disposed
Regular civil appeals	429	399
Miscellaneous civil appeals	131	133

Separation of Executive from Judiciary

Partial separation of the judiciary from the executive was brought about in 1962 when the trial of I.P.C. cases by executive magistrates was abolished.

However, the judicial magistrates who were trying criminal cases under the appellate authority of sessions judge worked under the administrative control of the district magistrate for the purpose of law and order duties. As a further step towards separation at the magisterial level, all judicial magistrates working under the district magistrate were transferred to the control of the district and sessions judge, Muzaffarnagar, with effect from October 2, 1967.

This process reached its culmination with the enforcement of the new Code of Criminal Procedure, on April 1, 1974, which ensures an absolute separation of the judiciary from the executive. The new Code makes some far-reaching changes, among others, in the classification, nomenclature, and powers of courts, provides for simplifying and accelerating the course of justice, and attempts to give a fair deal to those generally placed disadvantageously in trials before criminal courts.

Nyaya Panchayats

For the purpose of associating people with the administration of justice, the U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, established panchayat adalats in 1949, which were subsequently called *nyaya* panchayats. The jurisdiction of a *nyaya* panchayat usually extends over an area of five to ten *gaon sabhas*, depending on the population of the constituent villages. The total number of *nyaya* panchayats in the district was 111 in 1949, which increased to 115 in 1972, tahsil Muzaffarnagar having 34, tahsil Budhana 21, tahsil Kairana 31, and tahsil Jansath 29 *nyaya* panchayats.

The *panchs* of the *nyaya* panchayats are nominated from amongst the elected members of the *gaon* panchayats by the district magistrate with the assistance of an advisory body. These *panchs* elect from amongst themselves the *sarpanch*, who is the presiding officer, and a *sahayak* (assistant) *sarpanch*. The *panchs* are honorary workers and hold office for a period of five years. Their term of office may be extended by a year by the State Government. The cases are heard by benches consisting of five *panchs* each and constituted by the *sarpanch* annually. The presence of at least three *panchs*, including a *sarpanch*, at each hearing is essential.

The *nyaya* panchayats are empowered to try cases under the following Acts and their respective sections :

- (a) The U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947
(b) Sections

140	269	290	352	403*	431	509
160	272	294	357	411 *	447	510
172	283	323	358	426	448	
174	285	334	374	428	504	
179	289	341	379*	430	506	

Of the Indian Penal Code

*Involving property not exceeding an amount of Rs 50 in value.

(c) Sections 24 and 26 of the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871.

(d) Subsection 1 of section 10 of the U. P. District Board Primary Education Act, 1926 and

(e) Sections 3, 4, 7 and 13 of the Public Gambling Act, 1867.

The *nyaya* panchayats also try civil suits up to a valuation of Rs 500, and revenue cases if the parties concerned agree in writing to such a course. They are not authorised to award sentences of imprisonment and can impose fines only up to a hundred rupees. Revision applications against their decisions in civil, criminal, and revenue cases lie with the *munsifs* and the subdivisional magistrates. Criminal and civil cases instituted in the *nyaya* panchayats during 1971-72 numbered 253 and 41, and those disposed of by them were 159 and 26 respectively. As a result of the general elections for the panchayats, the *nyaya* panchayats have been reconstituted from October 1973.

Bar Association

The district has a rich heritage of lawyers. Besides achieving distinction in the legal field, some of them were pioneers in the sphere of social service also. The bar association at the district headquarters started nearly 61 years ago with only a few pleaders and *vakils*. This association has a fine, up-to-date library. The membership is open to all legal practitioners. In 1972-73, it had a membership of 360 advocates. There is also a civil bar association, which was established in 1923, and had 73 members in 1973.

CHAPTER XIII

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

Besides the departments of the State Government which have been discussed in the preceding chapters, there are certain others functioning in the district. Their organisational pattern and working are stated briefly as below :

Agriculture Department

The district of Muzaffarnagar falls under the jurisdiction of the deputy director of agriculture, Meerut region, with headquarters at Meerut. In the district the project officer, assisted by a district and two additional agriculture officers, looks after activities connected with agriculture, horticulture, plant protection, oil-seeds, cultivation, jute development and the like, and is responsible for the formulation and implementation of Five-year Plan schemes.

There are 17 assistant development officers (agriculture), and 14 assistant development officers (compost), functioning at the block level for extension work, supervision of seed stores, distribution of fertilizers, and recovery of dues. There are 61 seed stores with 84 *kamdars* in the district, each under the supervision of an assistant agriculture inspector. For the collection of agricultural dues the services of one tahsildar and two *naib* tahsildars have been placed at the disposal of this department in the district.

There is a jute development inspector who looks after the development of jute cultivation in the district. There are two government agricultural farms at Babri and Alauddinpur each under a farm superintendent.

The plant protection officer with headquarters at Muzaffarnagar controls the work of 13 units spread over the district.

A senior horticulture inspector supervises the lay-out of orchards and plant nurseries on scientific lines, provides technical guidance, and supplies plants, saplings, and vegetable seeds.

A soil conservation unit functioning under a deputy director with headquarters at Meerut, is stationed in the district. At the district level its affairs are managed by the district soil conservation officer. This officer is assisted by five soil conservation inspectors, 26 assistant inspectors, two overseers, and one technical assistant.

Animal Husbandry Department

The district falls under the jurisdiction of the deputy director of animal husbandry posted at Meerut. The district livestock officer is in charge of schemes for the development of livestock and fisheries, and arranges loans for poultry farming in the district.

He is assisted by an artificial insemination officer, four veterinary officers, sixteen veterinary assistant surgeons, and five assistant development officers (animal husbandry).

Co-operative Department

The deputy registrar, co-operative societies, Meerut, is the regional head of the department. Two assistant registrars (co-operative societies) are stationed at Muzaffarnagar with separate functions. There are 6 co-operative officers, 13 assistant development officers (co-operatives), 5 co-operative inspectors, 1 senior accounts inspector, 50 co-operative supervisors, and 30 other supervisors to look after the working of co-operative societies in the district.

Education Department

The district falls within the jurisdiction of the deputy director of education, Meerut region, and the regional inspectress of girls' schools, who have their headquarters at Meerut. Within the district the district inspector of schools is responsible for the supervision, control, and inspection of educational institutions up to the higher secondary level. He is assisted by an associate district inspector of schools, a deputy inspector of schools, and a deputy inspectress of girls' schools, the latter being in charge of girls' education up to the junior high school and being assisted by 9 assistant inspectresses. The deputy inspector also advises the local bodies and aided institutions up to the junior high school level and is assisted in his work by 18 subinspectors of schools.

A district Basic education officer has been working since 1972 to supervise all primary institutions in the district; he also controls the staff of these institutions excluding those serving under the municipal boards.

The Sanskrit *pathshalas* and the Urdu medium primary schools are under the overall charge of the assistant inspector, Sanskrit *pathshalas*, and the deputy inspector, Urdu medium schools, Meerut region, respectively, both having their headquarters at Meerut.

Forest Department

The district falls in the northern doab division under the divisional forest officer, Meerut, and has two ranges, each under a range officer. The Muzaffarnagar range has four sections at Muzaffarnagar, Khatauli, Miranpur, and Shukartal. The Shamli range consists of three sections spread over Shamli, Pulkheri, and Budhana. Each section is under a forester. The sections are further subdivided into beats under forest guards. The Muzaffarnagar range has 12 beats while the Shamli range has 13.

The department looks after the preservation and improvement of the existing forests, replacing inferior trees by fast-growing and industrially important species. It also constructs forest roads and ensures preservation of wild life.

Industries Department

For the survey and proper utilisation of the industrial resources, a district industries officer is stationed at Muzaffarnagar and

works under the overall control of the joint director of industries, Meerut region. He is the chief promoter of industrial activities in this district and is responsible for the effective control, implementation, and development of industrial schemes. He is assisted by a superintendent, 3 industrial inspectors, 1 textile inspector, 1 examiner, an assistant manager of the industrial estate and other staff.

Irrigation Department

The main functions of this department are utilisation of water resources for the purpose of irrigation by means of canals, tube-wells and dams, and the control of floods. It also looks after the improvement of drainage and removal of waterlogging, besides assessing irrigation revenue.

The executive engineer, Ganga canal division, Muzaffarnagar, exercises jurisdiction over the part of the district lying between the Ganga and the Hindan rivers, and works under the overall supervision of the superintending engineer, circle I, at Meerut. He is assisted by 3 assistant engineers and 16 junior engineers. The jurisdiction of the executive engineer, lower division eastern Yamuna canal, Muzaffarnagar, extends over Budhana and Kairana tahsils. He is assisted by 3 assistant engineers and 16 junior engineers.

Tube-wells—The district falls under the jurisdiction of the superintending engineer, Meerut circle, with headquarters at Meerut. At the district level there is a division under the charge of an executive engineer stationed at Muzaffarnagar, who is assisted by 3 assistant engineers, 1 deputy revenue officer, and 6 junior engineers for the construction of new tube-wells and the repair and maintenance of old ones.

Public Works Department

Apart from the construction and maintenance of national and provincial highways, other link roads and bridges, as also flood control works, the aim of the department is to bring every village in a developed and agricultural area within 6.4 km. of a metalled road, and within 32.18 km. of a main road in an under-developed area, by taking up such schemes during the tenures of successive Five-year Plans. There is an executive engineer stationed at Muzaffarnagar. He is assisted by 7 assistant engineers and 28 junior engineers. A superintendent of works of the rank of executive engineer, also posted at Muzaffarnagar, is in charge of the departmental construction unit for the construction of major bridges, under whom are placed 15 districts, including Muzaffarnagar.

CHAPTER XIV

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

The concept of local self-government has been known in India since ancient times. Even as far back as the period of the Vedas, although the king was the fountain of all administration his power was not arbitrary. The *Samhita* has a mention of village assemblies, known as Samiti and Sabha, which acted as effective checks on the powers of the king, and also as the mouthpiece of the people's will. The *Rigveda* refers to the Gramani, the village headman, both for civil and military purposes and for collecting the dues and effecting control of the ruling authority. There is also mention of Gramyavadin or the village judge in the *Brihadaranyaka Upanishad*. According to *Grihya Sutra* in smaller affairs of life "authority rests with the village."

In the epic age, it was usually customary with Indian rulers to leave the State affairs as far as possible in the hands of the local authorities; the Panch or village elders were practically independent, provided the village paid its dues as assessed by the king or Adhipati. There was a chain of officials for ten, twenty, hundred, and a thousand villages respectively, called Dasagrami, Vimsatipa, Satagrami, and Adhipati, all being ultimately responsible to the king. For the towns there was the Nagara-dhyaksha (city prefect), who dealt with the affairs of urban life and created respect for law and order in the people's mind.

Buddhist and other Pali works, like the *Jatakas* and the *Pitakas* also furnish information about the local governments of the time. There are ample instances of collectivist initiative which reveal a relatively advanced sense of citizenship in the *gamas* (villages) and *nigamas* (small towns). The peasant proprietors had a nominal head named *bhojaka* or headman, who represented them at the political headquarters and under whose chairmanship and advice village residents discussed civil and political matters in the *santhagaras* (mote-halls), specially constructed for these discussions. Men and women took equal part in building rest-houses, water reservoirs, and parks, while road repairs and other works of municipal building were carried out through voluntary labour (corvee).

The account which Megasthenes renders of the officials of the Maurya rule points out to a highly organised municipal bureaucracy at the district, town, and village levels. He speaks of the Agronomoi and Astynomoi, the district and town officials respectively, and gives so detailed an account of the latter as also of the municipal administration of Pataliputra, that it could be reasonably inferred from it that other towns of the empire also had a similar administrative set-up. The local affairs were under a commission consisting of six boards of five members each.

According to Vincent Smith, these boards were 'an official development of the ordinary non-official panchayat'. The members of the first looked after industrial arts, while those of the second attended to the entertainment and lodging facilities of foreigners, together with keeping a watch on their modes of life. The third body looked after the account of births and deaths. The fourth superintended trade and commerce, the fifth supervised the manufacture of articles and their sale, and the sixth collected taxes on articles bought and sold. Collectively these boards, besides looking after their own department, also looked after matters touching the general interest e.g. maintenance of public buildings, price regulation, management of markets, harbours and temples. Megasthenes also throws light on district and rural administration under the various classes of officials called Agronomoi, who superintended rivers, land measurement, and inspection of sluices by which water was let out from the main canals into smaller channels so that everyone may utilise it for irrigation, and on those who looked after agriculture, forestry, timber works, and metal foundries and mines. Many details of the administrative system propounded by Kautilya are found in *Manusmriti*, according to which the village was the smallest administrative unit which was under a Gramika, appointed by the king. In the same way officials for ten, twenty, hundred, and thousand villages were also appointed by the king. Kautilya also makes mention of the Gopa, an official for five or ten villages, and of the Sthanika who supervised one quarter of a Janapad (district). The municipal administration of the city was in the charge of the chief executive officer called Nagaraka or Nagaravyavaharaka, who was of the rank of a minister or Mahamatra. The importance of civic affairs during the Maurya rule is revealed by the fact that there was also a special officer called the Vrajabhumika at the centre, holding charge of what was called by the general term Vraja, probably denoting all public utility works.

The Guptas and the later Hindu rulers generally followed the same system with some minor changes. Mention of village headman (Gramika), village elders (Mahattaras), rural board (Ashtakuladhikarana), the district office (Vishayadhikarana), and municipal board (Adhishthanadhikarana) is found in the Mauryan kingdom. The municipal board was said to consist of four members—the guild president (Nagarsheshthi), the chief merchant (Sarthavaha), the artisan (Prathamakulika), and the chief scribe (Prathamakayastha).

The details of the local administration in the country after the advent of Muslim rule are not available, but it is quite clear that the traditional institutions lost much of their importance during the Muslim rule. The Mughal administration was a blend of Persio-Arabic systems in Indian setting. The existing Indian system and law were respected till they came into conflict with the principles of Islam. Generally speaking, the traditional Indian system of village administration with its officialdom was allowed to exist, while the Islamic system operated at the centre and at the higher official and district levels. The Kotwal was in charge of the town administration and enjoyed even wider powers than

the present-day municipal bodies, which can be stated under broad heads like watch and ward, market control, prevention of crime and social abuses such as *sati*, and regulation of cemeteries, burial-grounds, and slaughter-houses. The wholesale annexation of territory and over-centralisation of administration during the early British period brought about a total extinction of traditional institutions of local self-government in the country.

The events of 1857 had a sobering influence on the British rulers, and the following eighty years saw numerous steps being taken for the decentralisation of administrative machinery to usher in local self-government in the rural and urban areas. The first legal provision for the rural areas was the passing of the N. W. P. and Oudh Local Rates Act, 1871, followed by the Local Boards Act, 1883, which provided for the establishment of the district and tahsil boards.

The details of the historical development of the various classes of self-governing bodies in the district are dealt with separately in the following pages.

MUNICIPAL BOARDS

The earliest beginning of management of municipal affairs in the towns related to the making of arrangements in then for watch and ward. The Regulation XVI of 1814, permitted the establishment of ward committees in large cities, which levied a tax on the houses and lands to pay the chowkidars. From 1837, the savings from this tax were also used for town improvements, and non-official committees were appointed to supervise this work.

From the forties of the last century the attention of the government was increasingly focussed on the gradual growth and strengthening of urban local self-governing bodies. A number of statutes were passed more and more financial and other powers were delegated to these bodies, besides making them broad-based and more representative. Of these the N. W. Provinces and Oudh Municipalities Act, 1883, and the U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916, are by far the most important ones.

The Act of 1883 gave greater autonomy and powers to the municipalities (only three existing in the district at the time, those of Muzaffarnagar, Kandhla, and Kairana) in matters of finance, allowing them to contribute towards education from their own funds, in addition to performing other functions relating to sanitation, drainage, lighting, public health, and regulation of markets. The most outstanding feature of the U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916, which is applicable to the governance of the municipal boards in the State with modifications and amendments, was the introduction of the system of communal and minority representation. The powers of the government regarding their dissolution and supersession remained as strong as ever.

The Montague-Chelmsford Report of 1918 made local self-government one of the transferred subjects under the charge of

a minister. The Government of India Act of 1935 also introduced some more changes in the structure of the local bodies. There was no major change in the constitution, powers, and functions, etc., of the municipal boards till the achievement of Independence in 1947. By an amendment made in the Act in 1949, communal representation in the municipal elections was abolished, leaving only two categories of seats, namely, general and Scheduled Castes, and thus the method of election was fully democratised. Universal adult franchise was introduced and the system of nomination of members was abolished. Another amendment in 1953 changed the nomenclature of the chairman of the board to president, and provided for his direct election on an experimental basis. However, later on, indirect elections were reintroduced, the municipal area being divided into wards which elect a number of members. Most of the services in the boards have now become centralised under the U. P. Palika (centralised) Service Rules, 1966.

The municipal boards consist of members who elect the president, the term of office of the members and the president being normally five years, which can be abridged or extended by the government in special cases. Members have power to oust the president through a vote of no-confidence and elect a new president. The last municipal elections were held in U. P. in June-July 1971.

The income of the municipal boards is mainly derived from tax on vehicles and hackney carriages, octroi toll, rent of municipal property and government land (*nazul*) managed by the board, sale proceeds of water and grants, and loans from the government. The main heads of expenditure are general administration, collection charges of taxes and other dues, water-supply, street lighting, construction and maintenance of the streets and roads, and other public works such as education, public health and sanitation.

The details of the income and expenditure of the local bodies for ten years (1962-63 to 1971-72) are given at the end of the chapter (Statements I to V).

Muzaffarnagar

Muzaffarnagar was the first town in the district to be administered by a municipal board, in the year 1872. The municipality now covers a total area of 12.0 sq. km., and its population was 1,14,783 according to the census of 1971. At the time of the last municipal elections the town was divided into 10 wards which elected 25 members through adult franchise.

Water-supply—The water-supply scheme of the municipal board was completed in the town on April 1, 1963. There were three tube-wells for the purpose in 1972 and the reservoir had a capacity of 9,00,000 litres. The total length of pipe-lines laid in the town was 4,055 m. Water is supplied all the twenty-four hours. The total quantity of water supplied in the town in 1970-71 was 2,42,91,11,955 litres, which gave an average of 57.9 litres

of water per head per day, the board having spent a total amount of Rs 5,92,100 on water-supply arrangements in that year.

Street Lighting—Electricity was made available to the town in the year 1930. The board makes arrangements for lighting of roads, streets, and other public places in the town. There were 1,650 electric street lights in the town in the year 1970-71 and a sum of Rs 26,776 was spent by the board under this head in that year.

Public Health and Sanitation—For keeping the town clean and maintaining conservancy services, the board had one chief sanitary inspector, three sanitary inspectors, 523 sweepers and other staff in 1971-72. A major portion of the town has been provided with underground sewers and efforts are being made to cover the whole town with such sewers in the near future. This scheme is estimated to cost Rs 38.55 lakhs. A scheme estimated to cost a sum of Rs 8.6 lakhs for sewage utilisation has also been prepared by the board and work on it was started in 1971. The board incurred an expenditure of Rs 11,02,090 on public health and sanitation in the year 1971-72.

Education—The junior Basic institutions managed by the local bodies were taken over by the State Government with effect from July 25, 1972. A Basic Shiksha Adhikari has been appointed in the district to look after the newly enforced scheme. There were 35 pre-junior Basic schools with 6,315 students on rolls maintained by the board, and 10 such schools which had 2,842 students received financial aid from the board in 1971-72. The expenditure incurred by the board on education in that year was Rs 7,29,665. There is also one intermediate college for girls maintained by the board, on which the expenditure in 1971-72 amounted to Rs 1,61,791 and it had 1,076 students on its rolls.

Gardens and Parks—The board maintains one garden named as Kamla Nehru garden which was laid out in 1902. Another park with a fountain in it has been recently constructed in Bhagat Singh market.

Shopping Centres—The board has constructed shops in Bhagat Singh market, Jhansi Rani market, Lala Lajpat Rai market, Azad market, and Subhas market.

The board has also constructed a number of houses for the low-income-group people in the town and the colony is named as Patelnagar. In addition, it provides financial aid to a privately managed Sewa Samiti, and to a library known as Peace Library.

Kandhla

The town was constituted a municipality in 1873. The total area covered by the municipality according to the 1971 census was 5.96 sq. km. and its population was 20,061. For the municipal elections held in June-July 1971, the town was demarcated into seven wards which elected 16 members on the basis of universal adult suffrage.

Street Lighting—Electricity was made available in the year 1935 and since then the board has installed 196 electric lamps for street lighting in the town. The board incurred an expenditure of Rs 51,358 under this head in the year 1971-72.

Public Health and Medical Services—For providing sanitation and maintaining conservancy services in the town, the municipal board had on its staff, one sanitary inspector, one vaccinator, three conservancy jamadars, 25 water-carriers, and 79 sweepers. There are two hospitals and one family planning centre here.

Water-supply—The municipal board has planned to set up a water-supply scheme in the town, for which a sum of Rs 12 lakhs has been sanctioned by the government.

Education—In 1971-72 there were seven junior Basic schools for boys and five for girls, being managed by the municipal board. In addition there was also one junior Basic school run by the government. The total expenditure incurred on education by the board during the year 1971-72 amounted to Rs 90,248.

Kairana

This is the third oldest municipality in the district, having been created in 1874. In 1971 the total area covered by the municipality was 3.11 sq. km. and its population was 32,353. At the time of the last municipal elections held in June-July 1971, the town was divided into 6 wards which elected a total number of 17 members through adult franchise.

Water-supply—The municipal board completed a water-supply scheme for the town in 1963. There were two tube-wells for the purpose and the reservoirs have a capacity for storing 2,25,000 litres, water being thus supplied without interruption. There were also ten public and 632 private water taps in the city in that year, the total length of pipe-lines laid in it being 178 metres. Nearly 18 litres of water per head per day was supplied to the residents, the total quantity consumed being 19,27,11,308 litres in that year. The board spent a total sum of Rs 34,969 on the water-supply arrangements in 1971-72.

Street Lighting—Electricity was made available in the town in 1936. The board has installed 500 electric street lamps and 182 kerosene oil lamps for lighting the roads and streets in the town. The total expenditure incurred on this account during the year 1971-72 was Rs 19,586.

Public Health and Medical Services—The municipal board looks after the sanitation of the town with a staff of sixty. There is a primary health centre with separate medical officers for males and females, a family planning centre, and one veterinary hospital. The total length of pukka and kutcha drains in the town is 15,000 metres, out of which a stretch of 12,000 metres is flushed daily. The total expenditure on this account was Rs 4,60,173 in the year 1970-71.

Education—The municipal board maintained 8 junior Basic schools for boys and 4 junior Basic schools for girls, as also one additional junior Basic school for boys and 2 for girls, with a total staff of 39 male teachers and 24 mistresses. The board also ran a senior Basic school for girls. A total sum of Rs 1,38,535 was spent by the board on education in 1971-72.

Special Achievements—The municipal board intends constructing a colony for sweepers. Proceedings for the acquisition of land for this purpose have been started. There is also a municipal library in the town.

Shamli

The total area covered by the Shamli municipality, which was established in 1949, was 3.63 sq. km., and its population was 36,959 according to the census report of 1971. At the time of the last municipal elections held in July 1971, 17 members were elected to the 6 wards through adult franchise.

Water-supply—The water-supply scheme of the board was completed in 1963. There were 2 tube-wells for the purpose and the reservoir had a capacity for storing 45,54,596 litres of water in 1971-72. The water-works are maintained with the assistance of engineers of the local self-government engineering department. Water is available all the time. There were 83 public stand posts and 1,292 private connections, the total length of pipe-lines laid in the town being 18 km. Nearly 34 litres of water per head per day was supplied and a total of 45,88,98,000 litres of water was consumed during the year 1971-72, resulting in a total expenditure of Rs 87,826.

Street Lighting—The town was electrified in the year 1931, and by 1971 it had 530 electric street-lights and 94 kerosene oil lamps installed at the thoroughfares and roads for lighting purposes.

Public Health and Medical Services—The municipal board looks after the public health and sanitary condition of the town through a sanitary inspector, a vaccinator, one conservancy supervisor, besides water-men, sweepers and other staff. In 1971-72 the board spent a sum of Rs 2,79,749 on these activities. The pukka drains are flushed daily.

Education—Eight junior Basic schools for boys and 5 for girls were maintained by the board, imparting education to 1,483 boys and 1,112 girls. Three senior Basic schools (2 for girls and 1 for boys) were also run by the municipal board in 1971-72, with 252 boys and 235 girls on their rolls. The board incurred an amount of Rs 2,80,122 on education during the year 1971-72.

Special Achievements—The municipal board has constructed 56 quarters for sweepers and other employees. It also maintains one library and two reading-rooms in the town.

Khatauli

This is the youngest municipality of the district. It was constituted in 1957 and covers an area of 3.5 sq. km. Its population was 24,495 according to the census of 1971. At the time of the last elections held in June-July 1971, the town was divided into 8 wards which elected a total number of 16 members through adult franchise.

Water-supply—The water-supply scheme in the town was started in 1964. There were two tube-wells with a reservoir having a capacity of 2,25,000 litres of water in the year 1971-72. There were 10 public posts in the town. The total supply of water in 1970-71 was 18,28,51,875 litres, a sum of Rs 35,830 having been spent on this account.

Street Lighting—The city is electrified and the board has installed 400 electric lamps for lighting the roads and streets of the town. The municipal board spent a sum of Rs 21,972 on street-lighting during the year 1970-71.

Public Health and Medical Services—The board maintains and supervises the sanitation of the town through a sanitary inspector, a vaccinator, 2 conservancy supervisors, 23 water-carriers, and 75 sweepers. The drainage scheme for the town is not yet complete, the total expenditure involved so far being Rs 11,58,581.

Education—In 1970-71 one senior Basic school for girls with 51 on rolls, and eight junior Basic schools (5 for boys and 3 for girls) with an enrolment of 859 boys and 516 girls were run by the board, and a sum of Rs 97,529 was spent on education.

TOWN AREAS

The Bengal Chowkidari Act, 1856 (Act XX of 1856) was enacted "to provide better management for watch and ward of cities, towns, stations, suburbs and bazaars of the Presidency of Fort William." The magistrates were empowered to determine the amounts needed for the maintenance of the town chowkidars. There was a committee of 3 to 5 members selected from amongst the residents to pay a kind of tax, on the basis of circumstances, property, and annual value of the premises occupied. The term of office of these members was one year only. The committee could also take up works of sanitation and general improvement of the town if the funds permitted. This Act could be made applicable to other towns also and they were generally known as Act XX towns.

At the beginning of the present century, there were eleven places in the district which were administered under this Act, viz., Jansath, Thana Bhawan, Khatauli, Shamli, Budhana, Pur, Charchawal, Jhinhana, Shahpur, Miranpur, and Jalalabad. Of these Shamli and Khatauli have now become municipalities and the remaining are now termed as town areas under the U. P.

Town Areas Act, 1914 (Act II of 1914). The major change introduced by this Act was that the towns were relieved of their watch and ward duties and their panchayats (executive bodies) were required to make arrangements only with regard to basic civic amenities like water-supply, construction and maintenance of roads, sanitation, and street lighting.

The executive body of the town area is called the town area committee. It comprises a chairman and 10 to 15 directly elected members, including a representative of the Scheduled Castes nominated by the district magistrate. The elections are held on the basis of universal adult franchise. The term of office of both the members and the chairman is normally four years, but the government has the power to extend or curtail it for the purpose of holding fresh elections or in other special circumstances. Any member or the chairman may also be removed by the government, before the completion of the term for dereliction of duty or abuse of power. The town areas obtain their income from taxes, sale-proceeds of dirt and refuse, revenue or rent of *nazul* land, contributions from the Zila Parishad, and loans and grants from the government. The term of the town area committees expired in November 1970 and the district magistrate took over the administration of these local bodies. In June-July 1971, however, fresh elections were held and they were restored to the popular control of the elected town area committees.

In 1972 the district had eleven town areas, out of which Budhana, Charthawal, Jalalabad, Jansath, Jhinjhana, Miranpur, Thana Bhawan, and Shahpur are the old Act XX towns, while Purkazi is the old town of Pur. All are electrified and provide electric street lighting. Sisauli became a town area in 1929. The latest addition is Bhukarheri in 1972. Relevant details of income and expenditure for the town areas for ten years (1962-63 to 1971-72) have been given in Statements VI to XIII at the end of the chapter. Such details for Jalalabad and Thana Bhawan are not available.

According to the census of 1971 the population in these towns was as below :

Town Area	Population	Area in sq. km.
Budhana	10,522	3.8
Charthawal	11,638	4.5
Jalalabad	10,923	0.6
Jhinjhana	7,820	5.0
Jansath	8,202	0.3
Miranpur	12,962	0.49
Shahpur	6,435	0.24
Thana Bhawan	13,933	5.0
Purqazi	10,485	5.0
Sisauli	9,198	6.0
Bhukarheri	10,226	2.3

Although during British rule the idea of the ancient village bodies was not relished and they were allowed to run into decay, these panchayats did not die out altogether. In 1819, Monstuart Elphinston writing in one of his minutes observed that he found each village to be a republic with its panchayat at its head. The practical needs of the situation, however, had brought into existence a number of local cesses and contributions and a network of committees to assist in their administration long before this. Till 1870, however, these had for their basis either the administrative rules and orders of the government, or sometimes just a semi-voluntary understanding between the officers of the government and the governed. No legal provision for local government of any sort for the rural areas was made till 1871, when the N. W. P. and Oudh Local Rates Act, 1871, legalised the imposition of certain local rates or cesses and provided for the establishment of committees to look after roads, schools, and dispensaries. The N. W. P. and Oudh Local Boards Act of 1883 provided, for the first time, for the establishment of a local board in every tahsil and above it a district board made up of some or all of the members of the tahsil boards. The Royal Commission on Decentralisation (1906), recorded that the system had failed specially in the ruler areas because the newly created local institutions, like some superimposed and alien machinery, did not take into account the real community interests of the rural people, and recommended the resurrection of the ancient village panchayats with responsibilities like water-supply and cleanliness. Accepting these recommendations with certain safeguards, (panchayats to be established only in selected villages with conditions favourable for successful working under the care of the collectors), the U. P. Village Panchayats Act, 1920, was passed.

In 1922, the U. P. District Boards Act, extended the territorial jurisdiction of the district board to the whole of the rural area of the district. The amending Act of 1948, abolished the separate electorates for Muslims and Scheduled Castes.

The U. P. Panchayat Raj Act of 1947 was a more comprehensive law, delegating to the panchayats important powers for the administration of village affairs under the supervision of the panchayat raj department established at the State level. The desirability of public participation in planning and development activities taken up all over the country after the achievement of Independence in 1947, particularly in the late fifties of the present century, necessitated changes in the set-up of the district boards, which were replaced in 1958 by the Antarim Zila Parishads created under the U. P. Antarim Zila Parishads Act, 1958. The erstwhile district land and the district planning committee were merged with the Antarim Zila Parishad. The recommendations of the Balwant Raj Mehta Committee report for a three-tier system of democratic decentralisation were accepted, and through the U. P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishad Adhiniyam, 1961, enforced in 1963, the system of a three-tier organisation with the Zila Parishad at the apex, the Kshettra Samitis in the middle and the Gaon Sabhas at the base was introduced. These bodies were

correlated with each other to ensure co-ordination on administration and development of villages.

This system, called Panchayat Raj, aims at entrusting the management of local affairs to the citizens of rural areas themselves, so as to enlist their co-operation in the rural development programmes and also to train them in shouldering certain responsibilities of administration.

Zila Parishad

The district board established in 1883 after the enactment of the N. W. P. and Oudh Local Boards Act, 1883, was constituted of members of the tahsil boards or their representatives which consisted of six to twelve elected members and such number of nominated members as did not exceed one-fourth of the total membership. The tahsil boards exercised such powers and had such funds to spend as were allotted to them by the district board. The district magistrate was the chairman of the district board and one of his subordinate officers presided over each tahsil board. In 1906, the boards in the tahsils were abolished and the financial position of the district board was strengthened. The U. P. District Boards Act of 1922, together with a number of amendments made from time to time, governed the working of the district boards till the establishment of the Antarim Zila Parishad in 1958, which was subsequently renamed as Zila Parishad in 1963 after the enforcement of the U. P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishad Adhiniyam, 1961. The term of the Zila Parishad was to expire in June, 1968, but was extended upto 1970, and thereafter by an ordinance known as the U. P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishad (Alpakalik Vyavastha) Adhyadesh, 1970, the powers and functions of the Zila Parishad were vested in the district magistrate for a period of two years.

The main functions of the Zila Parishad are co-ordination of the activities of the Kshettras (development blocks); implementation of inter-block schemes; utilisation of funds allotted by the government for the purposes of agriculture, animal husbandry, irrigation, co-operation, village industries, public health, and education; construction as well as repair of roads, bridges, and ferries; and promotion of cultural activities and welfare of children, youth, and women.

The principal sources of income of the Parishad are taxes, licence fees, market tolls, rents from property and grants, and loans from the government.

It spends most of it on public health services, schools, and public works like construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, and ferries. The figures of income and expenditure with their main heads will be found at the end of the chapter (Statement XIV).

To carry out its various functions, the Zila Parishad is required to constitute six statutory committees called the Karya (executive), Vitta (finance), Shiksha (education), Sarvajanik Nirman

(public works), Jan Swasthya (public health), and Niyojan (planning) Samitis.

Education—104 institutions upto the senior Basic stage (junior high school) were under the control of the Zila Parishad till July 25, 1972, when they were taken over by the State Government. The junior Basic schools, both for boys and girls, maintained by the Zila Parishad numbered 927.

Medical and Public Health—There were 15 Ayurvedic, 5 Unani, and 3 allopathic dispensaries maintained by the Parishad in the year 1970-71, and nearly 2 lakhs of patients were treated in them. The total expenditure incurred by the Parishad on medical and public health activities amounted to Rs 2,11,229 in 1970-71.

Public Works—The Zila Parishad had under its management 40 km. of metalled roads and 116 km. of unmetalled roads in the year 1972.

Kshettra Samitis

The community development blocks established in the fifties for successful and speedy implementation of the Five-year Plan schemes, had block advisory committees to help and advise the staff posted in the blocks. Statutory Kshettra Samitis were established in the district in 1962. The membership of a Kshettra Samiti consists of all *pradhans* of the constituent *gaon sabhas*, chairmen of the town and notified areas, committees within the block, five representatives of the co-operative societies of the block, and all members of the Central and State legislatures representing or residing in any part of the block. The Samiti also co-opts persons interested in planning and development work and representatives of women and the Scheduled Castes. The Kshettra Samiti is headed by a *pramukh* and two *up-pramukhs* elected by the members and its normal tenure is five years, which may be shortened or extended by the government in special circumstances. Every Kshettra Samiti constitutes a Karya Karini (executive), an Utpadan (production), and a Kalyan (welfare) Samiti headed by the *pramukh* and the two *up-pramukhs*, respectively. Since 1964, the services of the officers and other staff employed at the development blocks have been placed at the disposal of the Kshettra Samitis. The Kshettra Vikas Adhikari (block development officer) functions as the executive officer of the Kshettra Samiti, and is responsible for the implementation of plans and programmes of the *gaon sabhas* relating to agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries, minor irrigation works, public health, maternity and child welfare centres, prevention and control of epidemics, promotion of village and cottage industries, and to co-operative institutions. The Samiti acts as a co-ordinating agency for the *gaon sabhas* functioning within its jurisdiction in the implementation of schemes and programmes. On the basis of the elections to the village panchayats in 1972, the 11 Kshettra Samitis were re-constituted in the beginning of 1973 after the election of their *pramukhs* and *up-pramukhs* and other elective members. There are 11 Kshettra Samitis in the district.

Gaon Panchayats

Statutory provision for the establishment of panchayats in the villages of this district was made in 1921 by the enforcement of the U. P. Village Panchayats Act, 1920, (Act VI of 1920). In 1922 there were 130 panchayats functioning in the district, which were established under this Act. Hardly 4 per cent of the villages were, however, covered by these panchayats and most of them were not able to arouse any enthusiasm amongst the rural inhabitants. They were not elected bodies. They had no power of taxation and always suffered from paucity of funds. Some efforts were made to make them elective in 1929, but nothing could be done. Some half-hearted measures in the direction were taken through an amendment in 1934. A committee appointed in 1938 under the presidentship of A. G. Kher, then minister for local self-government, to examine the structure and working of the existing law and machinery relating to local self-government in the State, submitted a comprehensive report in 1939, but before it could be considered the Congress ministry resigned. The matter was taken up again after Independence and the U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, was passed, providing for the establishment of *gaon sabhas* and their panchayats throughout the State in every village or a group of villages. It was enforced in the district in 1949 and 515 *gaon sabhas* were constituted in the district. These panchayats functioned under the supervision of a director at State level. By the U. P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishads Act, 1961, certain important changes were made in the U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, relating to the village panchayats established thereunder. The erstwhile *gaon samaj* is now merged into the *gaon sabha* and the land management committee formed under the provisions of the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1951, is now a sub-committee of the *gaon panchayat* which is the executive body of the *gaon sabha*. Pradhans of *gaon sabhas* are ex officio members of the Kshettra Samitis. After the elections for these village bodies which were completed in May-June 1972, the number of *gaon panchayats* in the district rose to 770.

All the adults of a village or group of villages, with a minimum population of 250 persons, constitute a *gaon sabha*. The *pradhan* (president) and the *up-pradhan* (vice president) are elected by the members of the *gaon panchayat* from amongst themselves, each for a term of five years. They are also ex officio *pradhans* and *up-pradhans* of the *gaon panchayats* and have the right to participate in the proceedings of the panchayat. The *pradhan* is not deemed to be member of the *gaon panchayat* and is not entitled to vote except in case of a tie, when the *pradhan* has the casting vote.

The function of the *gaon panchayat* include constructions, repairs, cleaning and lighting of streets, sanitation and prevention of epidemics, maintenance of buildings, land, or other property belonging to the *sabha*, registration of births and deaths, regulation of markets, and welfare of children, youth and women.

For the fulfilment of these objectives, the *gaon* panchayats depend largely on voluntary contributions and government grants. Income from land management is available for village development works. *Gaon* panchayats can take compulsory manual labour from all adult males between the ages of 21 and 45 years and realise its cost from defaulters as arrears of land revenue. A group of *gaon sabhas* is empowered to contribute funds jointly for the establishment of works of public utility such as primary schools, hospitals, dispensaries, roads, and bridges. Their power to levy taxes, rates, and fees to augment their resources for fulfilling their role as effective instruments of change and rural reconstruction at the grass-roots, have been extended by an ordinance promulgated in the month of November, 1972. They may now levy a tax on land, not exceeding 25 paise in a rupee on the amount of the land revenue to be paid by the actual cultivator or the tenant, whatever the case may be. The ordinance also empowers *gaon sabhas* to borrow money from the State Government, or from any Financial Corporation, Scheduled Bank, Uttar Pradesh Co-operative Bank, or District Co-operative Bank to carry out its programmes and activities of rural reconstruction.

The amount of taxes realised by the *gaon* panchayats in the district during the last five years is given below :

Year	Total demand (in Rs)	Total realisation (in Rs)	Remissions (in Rs)	Balance during the year (in Rs)
1	2	3	4	5
1967-68	2,50,019	2,05,020	33,240	11,759
1968-69	1,90,587	1,60,691	9,885	20,011
1969-70	1,95,637	1,70,822	—	24,116
1970-71	1,93,814	1,85,807	—	8,006
1971-72	1,75,520	1,62,221	1,998	11,300

The total income and expenditure of the *gaon* panchayats in the district during the year 1971-72 were as follows :

	Income	Expenditure
Tax	1,62,221	—
Licence fees	55	—
Land management committee	2,91,552	—
Grants-in-aid	16,847	—
Other sources	1,45,172	—
Previous balance	5,44,963	—
Public works	—	2,85,470
General administration	—	37,855
Others	—	25,623
Total	11,60,810	3,48,748

Some of the main achievements of the *gaon* panchayats of the district during the first three Five-Year Plan periods and for the year 1970-71 are stated below :

Name of project	I Plan	II Plan	III Plan	1970-71
1	2	3	4	5
Nullah construction (metres)	2,720	4,826	4,093	3,960
Kharanja (brick-laid lanes) construction (metres)	31,188	59,291	74,928	1,555
Culverts construction (No.)	45	175	1,368	38
Road construction kutcha (km.)	2	15	14	21
Road construction pucca	47	131	329	48
Road repair	239	526	1,068	112
Panchayat ghars construction (No.)	2	19	283	—

STATEMENT I (A)

Receipts (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Muzaffarnagar

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Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special Acts	Revenue				Other Sources	Total receipts
			3	4	5	6		
				derived from municipal property, etc., other than taxes	Grants and contributions	Miscellaneous		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1962-63	5,22,693	3,412	9,69,878	3,91,211	22,039	1,52,540	20,61,773	
1963-64	7,34,116	4,035	12,58,685	4,05,597	61,445	94,816	25,58,694	
1964-65	6,44,470	3,896	14,39,171	4,62,652	20,928	2,25,977	27,97,094	
1965-66	6,84,028	2,321	16,25,154	5,37,492	20,843	3,96,192	32,66,030	
1966-67	9,19,027	3,232	18,64,581	7,15,627	84,753	2,25,904	38,13,124	
1967-68	9,64,872	2,876	20,27,563	5,57,330	36,409	1,40,044	37,29,094	
1969-70	11,30,047	2,919	21,37,169	6,25,976	49,490	1,08,399	40,54,020	
1970-71	13,07,342	6,340	30,46,144	8,71,702	1,30,220	2,71,307	56,33,055	
1971-72	16,56,151	5,585	34,46,109	8,96,793	2,80,678	9,56,515	72,41,831	

STATEMENT I (B)

Expenditure (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Muzaffarnagar

Reference Page No. 190

Year	General		Public		Education	Contributions	Miscellaneous	Other Sources	Total expenditure
	administration and collection charges	Public safety	health and convenience						
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1962-63	1,64,203	25,581	16,73,279	3,09,324	15,350	1,45,641	1,68,279	25,01,657	
1963-64	1,72,961	22,385	15,06,589	4,08,184	5,000	1,42,830	1,45,681	24,03,630	
1964-65	1,85,378	24,077	17,36,052	3,54,062	5,700	1,42,170	1,30,960	25,78,399	
1965-66	2,05,221	32,001	21,80,383	4,13,083	5,450	1,78,581	2,15,885	32,30,604	
1966-67	2,21,869	28,432	25,91,884	4,41,680	6,860	2,42,014	1,84,634	37,17,373	
1967-68	2,51,302	34,610	27,31,132	4,77,936	7,059	2,01,007	2,30,552	39,33,598	
1968-69	2,48,099	37,320	29,37,017	4,65,933	—	1,78,250	2,28,942	40,85,561	
1969-70	2,87,346	44,606	32,74,241	5,54,662	9,927	1,50,781	2,52,025	45,73,588	
1970-71	2,83,611	30,735	42,77,401	6,00,144	4,100	3,28,435	2,95,777	58,20,203	
1971-72	3,33,073	36,103	54,21,517	7,29,666	14,650	4,00,481	2,94,405	72,29,895	

STATEMENT II (A)

Receipts (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Kandhla

Reference Page No. 190

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special Acts	Revenue derived from municipal property, etc., other than taxes				Miscellaneous	Other Sources	Total receipts
			4	5	6	7			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
1962-63	89,362	1,995	20,378	32,676	13,711	2,65,500	4,23,322		
1963-64	91,296	1,714	20,752	1,00,403	7,465	1,22,555	3,54,310		
1964-65	89,594	1,608	41,486	72,140	6,951	3,944	2,99,923		
1965-66	1,02,568	2,340	62,348	89,690	29,002	2,397	2,86,545		
1966-67	1,04,196	2,252	67,541	71,599	3,993	1,364	2,50,763		
1967-68	1,17,970	2,500	74,110	71,711	56,910	80,650	4,03,860		
1968-69	1,56,256	3,042	84,274	1,33,004	3,128	83,232	4,68,963		
1969-70	1,68,865	3,252	85,850	1,17,943	4,166	1,07,046	4,87,118		
1970-71	1,81,222	3,662	83,271	1,93,976	7,039	8,967	4,78,137		
1971-72	2,07,682	2,993	94,237	1,11,056	28,378	59,964	5,04,305		

STATEMENT II (B)

Expenditure (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Kandhla

Reference Page No. 190

Year	General		Public		Public		Miscellaneous		Other		Total
	administration and collection charges	Public safety	health and convenience	instructions	Contributions	7	8	9	sources	expenditure	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
1962-63	44,543	5,042	3,49,180	8,410	22,835	8,518	19,183	4,57,711			
1963-64	57,107	6,276	2,17,757	15,768	8,467	14,220	6,755	3,26,351			
1964-65	55,971	6,158	69,775	27,082	5,453	5,479	55,775	2,25,693			
1965-66	60,804	6,494	89,886	46,024	1,801	3,923	55,527	2,64,449			
1966-67	68,475	8,244	93,061	52,532	—	5,154	29,783	2,57,249			
1967-68	74,650	9,879	2,33,853	53,470	—	12,911	33,235	4,17,998			
1968-69	84,149	9,323	1,80,993	88,879	—	13,365	37,114	4,14,314			
1969-70	76,756	9,535	2,96,666	72,561	—	10,396	33,523	4,99,379			
1970-71	89,880	9,846	2,04,823	74,980	—	14,808	72,694	4,67,030			
1971-72	1,13,041	9,349	2,43,580	90,248	—	16,865	53,121	5,26,224			

STATEMENT III (A)

Receipts (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Kairana

Reference Page No. 190

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Revenue				Grants and contributions	Miscellaneous	Other sources	Total receipts
		Realisation under special Acts	derived from Municipal property, etc., other than taxes	4	5				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
1962-63	1,11,813	597	18,063	96,186	1,857	—	2,28,516		
1963-64	1,00,225	707	20,402	70,836	360	—	1,92,530		
1964-65	96,851	716	12,980	1,11,232	2,630	2,347	2,26,756		
1965-66	1,18,211	1,076	27,160	83,584	5,142	9,247	2,44,447		
1966-67	1,25,754	693	25,217	81,541	4,211	10,090	2,48,506		
1967-68	1,40,455	1,215	25,634	1,13,037	5,811	10,546	2,96,898		
1968-69	1,84,249	4,895	49,437	1,04,909	13,771	41,056	3,98,317		
1969-70	2,30,404	3,479	92,948	2,74,787	5,915	1,773	6,09,306		
1970-71	2,39,049	1,867	1,15,088	2,82,634	6,746	92,075	7,37,549		
1971-72	2,94,255	1,953	84,410	2,04,779	3,612	1,38,120	7,27,129		

STATEMENT III (B)

Expenditure (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Kairana

Reference Page No. 230

Year	General			Public		Public instructions	Contributions	Miscellaneous	Other sources	Total expenditure
	2	3	4	health and convenience	5					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
1962-63	44,643	9,733	92,801	48,162	1,491	12,433	1,532			2,10,795
1963-64	42,954	10,022	68,267	45,757	—	12,788	—			1,79,788
1964-65	35,614	9,320	1,04,566	43,575	40	7,125	—			2,00,840
1965-66	45,807	12,248	1,58,841	73,311	19	12,980	—			3,03,206
1966-67	46,433	12,344	1,10,517	90,437	28	17,043	—			2,76,802
1967-68	54,212	11,952	95,711	86,993	29	16,313	—			2,67,210
1968-69	67,575	21,436	2,10,899	94,891	30	29,949	—			4,24,780
1969-70	73,026	23,278	2,34,112	96,123	—	49,995	5,910			4,82,444
1970-71	59,110	51,358	4,60,173	1,14,285	—	79,638	34,818			7,99,382
1971-72	76,711	30,496	3,01,504	1,38,535	—	30,759	1,33,059			7,11,064

STATEMENT IV (A)

Receipts (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Shamli

Reference Page No. 190

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special Acts	Revenue derived from municipal property, etc., other than taxes				Grants and contributions	Miscellaneous	Other sources	Total receipts
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1962-63	4,11,566	2,666	46,685			46,685	1,53,069	6,510	95,760	7,16,256
1963-64	4,02,278	2,490	79,964			79,964	1,18,283	7,080	20,671	6,30,766
1964-65	4,21,244	2,278	77,395			77,395	2,02,690	3,767	49,885	7,57,259
1965-66	4,35,979	2,077	80,200			80,200	1,88,976	2,560	22,865	7,32,677
1966-67	4,03,449	2,133	1,00,717			1,00,717	1,91,471	1,864	15,630	7,15,254
1967-68	5,00,535	2,192	1,17,652			1,17,652	2,55,718	28,635	5,732	9,10,464
1968-69	7,01,984	2,697	92,810			92,810	2,09,955	7,997	5,201	10,20,644
1969-70	8,55,901	4,047	1,21,687			1,21,687	2,69,607	5,788	25,102	12,82,133
1970-71	7,45,763	3,984	1,27,544			1,27,544	3,40,165	9,714	9,174	12,36,344
1971-72	8,46,941	4,801	1,34,513			1,34,513	3,01,674	13,479	22,831	13,24,239

STATEMENT IV (B)

Expenditure (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Shamli

Reference Page No. 190

Year	General					Other sources	Total expenditure
	administration and collection charges	Public safety	Public health and convenience	Education	Miscellaneous		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1962-63	1,39,749	4,890	3,31,240	1,47,312	29,589	76,584	7,29,364
1963-64	1,39,756	6,480	2,65,384	1,17,322	42,714	19,837	5,91,493
1964-65	1,57,089	5,951	3,14,345	1,37,487	20,923	1,20,358	7,56,153
1965-66	1,62,937	7,341	3,68,784	1,47,474	25,690	41,134	7,53,360
1966-67	1,49,990	6,569	4,00,185	1,53,462	11,567	30,156	7,51,929
1967-68	2,02,988	4,136	4,07,865	1,79,701	20,332	451	8,15,473
1968-69	2,12,589	10,034	4,89,501	1,80,438	30,890	77,062	10,00,514
1969-70	2,17,309	11,552	6,10,189	2,47,186	42,976	30,313	11,59,525
1970-71	2,02,183	10,281	7,62,065	2,42,287	71,585	30,477	13,18,879
1971-72	2,75,010	10,756	7,89,324	2,80,122	36,907	22,543	14,14,662

STATEMENT V (A)

Receipts (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Khatauli

Reference Page No. 190

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Revenue					Total receipts
		Realisation under special Acts	derived from municipal property, etc., other than taxes	Grants and contributions	Miscellaneous	Other sources	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1962-63	1,56,055	10,560	6,931	77,889	—	1,52,128	4,03,563
1963-64	1,60,308	15,314	5,485	63,248	—	3,01,668	5,46,023
1964-65	1,77,478	6,835	7,498	75,544	—	1,02,670	3,70,025
1965-66	2,54,107	7,670	13,665	1,50,331	—	4,931	4,30,704
1966-67	2,62,009	5,234	15,416	76,097	—	8,159	3,66,915
1967-68	2,68,239	5,754	23,345	94,385	—	2,12,126	6,03,849
1968-69	3,49,837	9,236	32,183	97,808	—	7,628	4,96,692
1969-70	4,73,272	17,508	36,542	2,27,878	—	3,83,904	11,39,104
1970-71	5,31,134	4,383	38,181	1,83,873	1,189	1,08,991	8,67,751
1971-72	5,45,999	4,135	44,340	1,57,593	572	3,96,008	11,48,647

STATEMENT V (B)

Expenditure (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Khatauli

Reference Page No. 190

Year	General					Contributions	Miscellaneous	Other sources	Total expenditure
	administration and collection charges	Public safety	Public health and convenience	Education					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1962-63	32,481	1,568	91,026	22,096	26,953	33,095	1,52,100	3,59,319	
1963-64	35,774	1,920	1,63,983	26,106	28,886	24,474	3,27,274	6,08,417	
1964-65	38,739	1,829	1,17,768	43,633	30,372	20,847	1,24,526	3,77,715	
1965-66	47,435	1,188	1,64,665	44,999	31,420	18,837	24,046	3,32,610	
1966-67	54,648	714	1,03,891	45,447	32,612	79,222	25,930	3,42,464	
1967-68	58,143	763	1,42,876	56,452	32,347	50,033	2,32,825	5,73,439	
1968-69	57,884	156	3,23,320	71,978	31,870	60,772	27,015	5,72,995	
1969-70	72,049	79	3,62,132	74,140	33,464	64,161	3,91,141	9,97,166	
1970-71	82,789	302	4,51,051	97,529	35,011	1,07,038	1,54,989	9,28,709	
1971-72	88,164	—	3,50,806	91,641	36,948	1,06,909	5,73,551	12,48,019	

STATEMENT VI

Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Budhana

Reference Page No. 195

Year	Receipts (in rupees)				Expenditure (in rupees)					
	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other sources	Total expenditure	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1962-63	8,953	7,485	11,026	27,464	2,562	16,894	9,023	125	28,604	
1963-64	8,931	7,306	16,595	32,832	2,611	17,032	11,850	3,758	35,251	
1964-65	11,681	7,865	19,061	38,606	2,294	15,895	15,148	65	33,402	
1965-66	11,188	7,623	21,148	39,959	2,551	18,456	8,151	190	28,825	
1966-67	27,471	7,902	18,212	53,585	1,713	19,648	21,385	1,079	43,825	
1967-68	36,911	10,793	20,382	68,096	2,125	23,277	35,681	1,410	62,493	
1968-69	31,919	9,980	26,004	67,903	1,253	22,491	53,059	991	77,794	
1969-70	38,171	6,639	26,133	70,943	3,388	24,475	30,834	2,288	60,985	
1970-71	24,662	15,176	31,183	71,021	1,818	28,259	48,546	1,488	80,112	
1971-72	18,253	7,037	88,983	1,14,273	1,884	32,498	26,762	31,428	92,572	

STATEMENT VII
Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Charthawal
 Reference Page No. 195

Year	Receipts (in rupees)			Expenditure (in rupees)						
	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Others sources	Total expenditure	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1962-63	31,459	6,462	15,051	52,972	44,995	21,000	2,424	40,071	1,18,490	
1963-64	14,562	13,865	697	29,124	34,837	17,500	2,775	43,136	68,248	
1964-65	14,812	13,569	1,244	39,625	48,079	41,000	2,266	29,742	1,21,087	
1965-66	15,817	35,426	10,351	61,594	76,809	25,000	5,992	76,809	1,84,610	
1966-67	47,000	36,000	11,000	94,000	83,000	30,000	6,000	83,000	2,02,000	
1967-68	68,49,000	37,000	12,000	98,000	91,000	35,000	7,000	91,000	2,24,000	
1968-69	51,000	38,000	13,000	1,02,000	99,000	40,000	8,000	99,000	2,46,000	
1969-70	53,300	39,000	14,000	1,06,000	1,07,000	45,000	9,000	1,07,000	2,68,000	
1970-71	55,000	40,000	15,000	1,10,000	1,15,000	50,000	10,000	1,15,000	2,90,000	
1971-72	57,000	41,000	16,000	1,14,000	1,23,000	55,000	11,000	1,23,000	3,12,000	

STATEMENT VIII

Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Jhijnjhana

Reference Page No. 195

Year	Receipts (in rupees)			Expenditure (in rupees)						Total expenditure	
	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	General					Public works		Other sources
				Total receipts	administration and collection charges	Public health					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
1962-63	3,340	3,458	2,271	9,069	1,119	3,516	4,921	875	10,431		
1963-64	3,945	3,910	1,630	9,485	2,079	5,046	2,545	604	10,274		
1964-65	5,561	4,791	2,306	12,658	1,350	5,622	2,731	50	9,753		
1965-66	9,388	8,365	2,569	20,322	2,603	10,862	7,718	825	22,008		
1966-67	7,165	5,942	2,456	15,563	2,312	5,435	5,808	200	13,755		
1967-68	31,680	7,105	2,495	41,280	2,597	5,799	11,013	914	20,323		
1968-69	31,777	8,964	1,999	42,740	2,783	8,505	43,015	1,791	56,094		
1969-70	23,280	7,811	3,025	34,116	3,755	7,411	30,432	2,309	43,907		
1970-71	19,690	16,289	3,341	39,320	2,496	11,121	26,100	25	39,742		
1971-72	29,680	24,329	2,820	56,729	7,038	9,973	22,792	1,654	41,457		

STATEMENT IX
Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Jansath

Reference Page No. 195

Year	Receipts (in rupees)				Expenditure (in rupees)				Total expenditure
	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other sources	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1962-63	5,021	6,644	5,716	17,381	1,315	8,010	2,529	613	12,467
1963-64	5,624	4,727	4,526	14,877	1,810	9,897	2,073	1,674	15,454
1964-65	23,332	7,346	4,324	35,002	1,129	8,194	9,909	1,243	20,475
1965-66	21,899	5,117	7,024	34,040	799	9,024	25,897	150	35,870
1966-67	22,979	3,333	9,201	35,513	2,067	6,630	27,661	605	36,963
1967-68	7,767	8,731	8,833	25,331	3,434	10,960	18,116	759	33,269
1968-69	26,927	4,536	13,033	44,496	793	16,071	24,120	1,381	42,365
1969-70	24,746	6,559	10,510	41,815	610	11,406	26,061	1,841	39,918
1970-71	21,673	8,576	18,531	48,780	1,439	18,872	28,003	1,696	50,010
1971-72	53,162	8,156	11,752	73,070	1,660	25,821	25,632	4,918	58,031

STATEMENT X

Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Miranpur

Reference Page No. 185

Year	Receipts (in rupees)				Expenditure (in rupees)				Total expenditure
	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other sources	
i	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1962-63	7,135	8,787	1,482	17,404	964	10,916	6,450	1,291	19,621
1963-64	5,599	10,520	3,127	19,252	771	10,186	5,150	1,076	17,163
1964-65	13,047	10,271	3,569	26,887	1,524	17,001	5,881	1,371	25,778
1965-66	9,903	5,031	2,449	17,383	1,126	15,809	4,731	5,989	22,265
1966-67	11,613	4,550	221	16,384	550	7,500	4,800	140	12,990
1967-68	7,051	4,763	1,244	13,058	—	5,198	9,591	175	14,964
1968-69	22,815	14,654	8,023	45,492	679	22,713	16,280	3,234	42,906
1969-70	21,000	19,634	3,835	44,469	1,263	5,618	43,173	1,592	42,646
1970-71	17,500	28,498	3,398	49,396	—	21,270	38,208	4,607	51,646
1971-72	24,078	15,402	21,617	61,097	1,141	20,957	27,178	967	50,243

STATEMENT XI

Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Shahpur

Reference Page No. 195

Year	Receipts (in rupees)			Expenditure (in rupees)						Total expenditure
	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other sources		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1962-63	3,000	3,597	3,815	10,412	699	3,643	1,529	519	6,390	
1963-64	5,267	5,141	2,271	12,679	1,426	3,114	6,920	2,391	13,851	
1964-65	6,576	4,423	2,838	13,837	1,094	5,545	3,500	701	10,840	
1965-66	10,022	9,365	5,922	25,309	2,794	2,832	11,277	1,139	18,042	
1966-67	24,075	7,111	12,546	43,732	2,037	8,550	7,735	2,534	20,836	
1967-68	—	3,087	132	3,219	—	—	2,500	50	1,970	
1968-69	1,010	1,160	1,111	3,281	250	1,643	—	95	1,988	
1969-70	24,012	10,700	5,824	40,536	1,644	7,810	39,856	3,995	53,213	
1970-71	20,942	14,584	4,037	39,563	1,285	11,736	31,347	2,400	46,818	
1971-72	29,583	16,502	5,620	51,705	1,724	12,553	18,245	4,956	37,442	

STATEMENT XII

Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Purkazi

Reference Page No. 189

Year	Receipts (in rupees)				Expenditure (in rupees)						Total expenditure
	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General			Public health	Public works	Other sources	
					administration and collection	charges					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
1966-67	11,962	3,513	19,477	34,952	18,754	1,068	8,055	1,103	28,980		
1967-68	40,509	3,265	30,303	74,077	27,037	7,815	7,700	2,676	45,228		
1968-69	43,178	338	25,702	69,213	24,808	—	43,745	3,050	71,603		
1969-70	42,872	13,525	29,539	85,936	27,395	1,063	67,371	6,241	1,02,070		
1970-71	24,546	13,787	33,028	71,361	31,011	—	47,988	9,496	88,495		
1971-72	31,053	16,870	80,416	1,38,347	43,908	—	45,309	10,431	99,648		

Note : Figures of income and expenditure for the years 1962-63 to 1965-66 are not available

Note : Figures of income and expenditure for the years 1962-63 to 1965-66 are not available

STATEMENT XIII

Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Sisauli

Reference Page No. 195

Year	Receipts (in rupees)					Expenditure (in rupees)				
	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Opening balance	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other sources	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1962-63	3,783	5,609	1,021	4,974	15,387	1,873	3,351	3,505	25	8,754
1963-64	3,798	5,271	12,066	6,633	27,768	1,720	4,130	9,744	678	16,273
1964-65	6,834	6,336	10,849	11,495	35,514	2,141	3,941	23,275	50	29,407
1965-66	23,561	7,416	13,735	6,107	50,759	1,888	4,614	19,908	374	26,782
1966-67	7,115	7,230	6,713	23,977	48,035	2,048	5,833	34,417	—	42,298
1967-68	32,219	6,950	7,116	2,737	49,024	1,846	7,105	12,899	1,010	22,860
1968-69	16,806	9,556	1,497	26,184	54,025	1,536	7,649	34,085	272	42,945
1969-70	23,425	6,469	15,051	11,080	56,025	3,732	8,896	25,794	1,650	40,072
1970-71	20,275	13,865	697	15,953	50,790	2,901	11,275	28,758	201	43,136
1971-72	33,266	13,569	1,244	7,656	55,734	3,999	10,789	14,996	23	29,742

STATEMENT XIV (A)

Receipts (in Rupees), Zila Parishad, Muzaffarnagar

Reference Page No 197

Year	Government grants	Education	Medical and public health	Cattle pounds	Fairs and exhibitions	Other sources	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1962-63	21,57,305	1,77,574	181	9,008	24,246	3,80,246	27,48,560
1963-64	24,35,421	2,19,892	36	9,344	24,775	3,04,474	29,94,342
1964-65	28,56,030	2,21,949	82	11,600	26,310	4,24,747	35,40,718
1965-66	32,23,580	2,46,974	305	8,109	29,357	4,29,462	39,42,807
1966-67	40,15,274	2,64,152	4,505	4,713	31,618	4,68,913	47,89,175
1967-68	44,26,618	2,50,703	5,590	3,574	40,067	6,22,275	53,48,300
1968-69	48,14,887	2,86,685	5,959	3,119	50,960	7,40,801	59,02,411
1969-70	63,26,787	2,92,495	5,485	4,671	40,054	5,83,244	72,52,736
1970-71	63,49,969	2,88,522	5,328	2,333	49,549	5,26,803	72,22,504
1971-72	1,21,52,174	2,01,563	4,856	1,541	36,652	5,33,087	1,29,29,873

STATEMENT XIV (B)

Expenditure (in Rupees), Zila Parishad, Muzaffarnagar

Reference Page No. 197

Year	General administration and collection charges	Education	Medical and public health	Public works	Fairs and exhibition	Other sources	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1962-63	1,23,287	20,05,096	1,57,606	2,45,564	27,739	69,970	26,09,262
1963-64	1,23,016	21,90,731	1,66,361	1,57,675	26,753	36,287	27,00,823
1964-65	1,13,013	25,57,843	1,89,571	1,30,362	27,991	94,794	31,59,880
1965-66	1,23,737	32,24,169	1,99,176	2,34,136	26,115	1,05,492	39,72,825
1966-67	1,18,432	38,46,998	1,85,596	4,03,711	30,147	1,60,862	47,45,746
1967-68	1,47,641	40,23,677	1,92,062	33,941	3,64,477	1,82,968	49,44,766
1968-69	1,32,292	43,88,619	1,82,972	35,414	5,43,169	2,10,932	54,73,388
1969-70	1,33,558	58,33,781	2,14,713	7,27,431	37,672	1,61,918	71,09,073
1970-71	1,16,703	55,81,681	2,11,229	4,16,367	54,302	1,19,679	65,60,463
1971-72	1,28,431	69,25,581	2,12,076	17,18,664	44,142	1,44,345	91,73,289

CHAPTER XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

The intellectual traditions of the region comprising the present district of Muzaffarnagar can be traced to respectable antiquity dating back to the age of the Mahabharata, when it formed a part of the Pandava kingdom of Hastinapur.

The status of education in ancient India was exalted to the extent of its being described as a link of friendship between the mortals and the gods. *Brahmcharya*, which formed the basis of the entire educational system, entailed discipline of the mind and the body, and was considered an essential pre-requisite for all during the initial phase of their lives¹. The education of a child began at home, and was later taken up in *gurukulas* and *ashramas* under the guidance of *gurus* (teachers). The curriculum covered a wide range of subjects including the study of the *Vedas*, in addition to such traditional branches of learning as *itihasa-purana* (legends and folklore), *vyakarna* (grammar), philology, *chhandashastra* (prosody), *arthashastra* (political economy), *ganita* (mathematics), *dharma-shastra* (law), *shastravidya* (the science of handling weapons), *ayurveda* (medicine), and one's family profession.²

Regular studentship began with the *upanayana* or initiation ceremony, the pupil thereafter being considered a *dviya* or twice-born³. Mere cramming was avoided and stress was primarily laid on the development of the intellect. At the *medh-jnana* (ceremony marking the initiation of the fostering of intellect), prayers were offered for the endowment of the virtues of vigour, brilliance, and an all-round development of the pupil's intellect, soon after the initiation ceremony⁴. The primary objective of the intimate relationship between the teacher and the taught was to inculcate in the latter attitudes of obedience, service, austerity, and purity of conduct⁵. The period of tutelage extended from 15 to 20 years, according to the talent and requirements of the pupil.

It was generally on these lines that education continued to be imparted during the subsequent centuries in the region, as also all over the country. The tract forming the present district was probably included in the principalities of Thaneshwar and Srughna in the mid-seventh century⁶ the possibility of learning and culture being fostered here in a substantial measure. Generally, Sanskrit continued to be studied by the Brahmanas for religious purposes, secular education being imparted through the medium of local dialects in *pathshalas* run by private teachers. These *pathshalas* were mostly attached to temples.

1. Altekar, A. S. : *Education in Ancient India*, (Varanasi, 1957), pp. 260

2. Altekar, *op. cit.*, p. 264

3. Mookerji, R. K. *Ancient Indian Education*, (Delhi, 1960), p. 67

4. Altekar, *op. cit.*, p. 262

5. Altekar, *op. cit.*, pp. 261-265

6. Nevill, H. R. : *Muzaffarnagar : A Gazetteer*, (Ald. 1903), p. 157

The absence of authentic evidence or records pertaining to the state of education in this tract, added to the complete anonymity in this respect in the first few centuries A. D., makes it difficult to ascertain the type and extent of educational institutions existing here in the ancient and early mediaeval periods. It, however, appears that learning was not altogether neglected, the Brahmanas (one of the earliest colonists of this territory) being faithful to this cause throughout the hoary past.

Since the first great event connected with the district which finds a distinct place in the chronicles of the Persians, is the invasion of Timur in the last quarter of the fourteenth century, it becomes even more difficult to determine the impact of Muslim inroads into the educational system in this territory. However, owing to its proximity to the tract of the Punjab and Delhi, it may safely be surmised that *madrasas* and *maqtabas* had come into existence, though their number might have been insignificant. Education at this stage was imparted to Muslims in these institutions, the Hindus carrying on their pursuit of the elementaries of learning in the traditional *pathshalas*.

The ravages of Timur could have left little scope for the subsequent development of education, this fact being further strengthened by the conspicuous absence of any mention of this tract or its inhabitants even upto the first half of the sixteenth century.

However, the area seems to have caught the fancy of the nobles of Akbar's court, and in the period following his death it was apparently used as a favourite resort by the feudatories, many of them obtaining land grants here. This was obviously a fillip to the establishment of Muslim cultural influence in this tract. The science of surgery was apparently fostered here zealously, one Sheikh Hasan or Hassu, a native of Kairana, being favoured by Akbar with the title of Muqarrab Khan as a result of his skill in curing the emperor of a disease in 1597 A.D.¹ The poet Sadullah, who composed under the pseudonym of *masiha-Kairanavi*, was an adopted son of Muqarrab Khan, and wrote an epic poem on the saga of the loves of Ram and Sita.² This obviously was part of the cultural fusion then prevailing throughout the extent of the area held by the Mughals. The district appears to have felt, along with other districts of the doab, the full effects of the disorganisation that reigned throughout India from the first quarter of the 18th century till the British occupation in 1803.

In 1848, the district had 290 schools of which 108 were imparting education in Hindi, 23 in Sanskrit, 110 in Persian, 48 in Arabic, and one in English. Muzaffarnagar had 14 schools, the average in each of the other sixteen towns being 5.5. Kairana had 1 Hindi, 2 Sanskrit, 8 Persian, and 6 Arabic schools, with 246 pupils. The total number of schools in the 135 villages of the district was 171. In the 289 vernacular institutions of the district in the above year, the total enrolment came to 3,395 pupils.

1. Nevill, H. R. : *Muzaffarnagar : A Gazetteer*, p. 158

2. *Ibid.*, p. 159

The first tahsil and halaqabandi or village circuit schools in the district were opened in 1856 and 1859 respectively. The total number of institutions in the district in 1860-61 came to 352, with 5,159 pupils on rolls. The first institution providing education to females was set up in 1864. In 1867, the first Zila school was established at Muzaffarnagar, which provided education upto two years short of the matriculation standard. In subsequent years it became an important institution of the district. The total number of institutions in 1871-72 added up to 320, with an enrolment of 6,507 pupils. In 1874-75, the number of institutions had risen to 443 with a total enrolment of 7,401.

Some statistics regarding the educational institutions in the district are given below :

Year	No. of institutions	Total		Secondary Education			Primary Education		
		Scholars		Schools	Scholars		Schools	Scholars	
		Males	Females		Males	Females		Males	Females
1896-97	138	4,898	23	14	1,173	—	124	3,725	23
1897-98	155	5,792	31	12	1,119	—	143	4,673	32
1898-99	162	5,675	86	13	1,162	—	149	4,513	96
1899-1900	156	6,085	110	13	1,269	—	143	4,816	120

The decline in the year 1899-1900 was brought about by a decrease in the number of primary level institutions.

The number of primary and secondary level institutions in the district at the beginning of the present century (1900-1901) stood at 145 and 13 respectively. The enrolment figures in the former were 5,004 males and 154 females, the latter having 1,347 pupils. Some 32 new schools of the primary level were operational in 1901-1902, their total number in the above year coming to 177 with an enrolment of 6,541, including 140 females. The total number of secondary level schools in the above year was 12, with a total enrolment of 369 pupils.

The supervision of education in the district at this period was carried on through the inspector of Meerut circle in conjunction with the district board. The teaching staff for the primary and secondary institutions was supplied by the normal school at Moradabad (established in 1898), greater attention being paid to physical education in all the institutions of the district.

The office of the district inspector of schools was established in the district in 1947, and since then education is supervised in the district by this authority. He is assisted by an associate district inspector, a deputy inspector, and a deputy inspectress of girls' schools.

The deputy inspector and the deputy inspectress are, in their turn, assisted by 18 sub-deputy inspectors and 9 assistant inspectresses. The district falls within the jurisdiction of the deputy director of education, Meerut region, and the regional inspectress of girl's schools. Both have their headquarters at Meerut.

GROWTH OF LITERACY

The first attempt to collect some information on the state of education in the district was made in 1872. The results, though decidedly defective, were generally acceptable in respect of general indications. Of the total Hindu male population in the district, only 4.9 per cent were returned as literate, the percentage for Muslim males being only 3. The general level of literacy among women was so low that only one female a Hindu—was returned as literate in the whole district.

The percentage of literacy among males and females of the district between 1881 and 1951 has varied, as given below :

Year	Percentage of literacy		
	Total	Males	Females
1881	2.6	5.2	0.05
1891	2.7	5.4	0.1
1901	2.4	4.7	0.1
1911	2.8	5.2	0.4
1921	2.9	5.3	0.6
1931	3.4	6.7	0.13
1951	8.5	13.7	3.3

The subsequent decade registered these percentages at 24.9 and 6.9 for males and females respectively, the overall percentage being 16.7 as against the State average of 17.7 in 1961. The district then ranked 27th in literacy in the whole State.

The following statement gives details of the number of persons of different educational levels in the urban and rural areas of the district at the census of 1961 :

Educational standard	Persons	Males	Females
URBAN			
Total population	1,91,133	1,05,476	85,657
Literates (without educational level)	30,228	19,430	10,798
General Education			
University or post-graduate degree other than technical	2,128	1,866	262
Non-technical diploma not equal to degree	102	38	64
Technical diploma not equal to degree	69	69	—
Matriculation or higher secondary	10,553	8,865	1,688
Primary or junior Basic	22,583	15,155	7,428
Technical/professional Education			
Engineering	21	21	—
Medicine	34	34	—
Agriculture	10	10	—
Veterinary and dairying	2	2	—
Teaching	75	57	18
Others	2	2	—
RURAL			
Total population	12,53,788	6,79,555	5,74,233
Literates without educational level	1,18,526	97,605	20,921
Matriculation and above	12,255	11,869	386
Primary or junior Basic	44,363	40,093	4,270

The percentages of literacy among males and females in the district at the census of 1971 were 30.9 and 12.7 respectively. The percentage of literacy in the total population was 22.6, as compared to the State average of 22.1 in the above year.

GENERAL EDUCATION

General education now includes education from the pre-junior Basic or nursery stage to the university stage. Up to 1973, the district had 1,061 junior Basic and 169 senior Basic institutions. In addition, there were 88 higher secondary institutions and seven institutions which provided higher education in arts and science subjects at both post-graduate and degree levels.

The figures of enrolment for each of the above type of institutions during 1971-72 were as below :

Type of institution	No.	No. of students
Junior Basic	1,023	1,75,661
Senior Basic or (junior high school)	110	14,787
Higher secondary	88	60,622
Degree colleges	7	5,158

Pre-junior Basic Stage

Pre-junior education includes the education of pupils up to 6 years of age. The district had a number of such institutions, the municipal board, Muzaffarnagar, having within its limits 92 such institutions, 57 of which were being run by private bodies. The only Montessori school within the limits of municipal board, Kandhla, was started in 1959, and had in 1971-72 a total enrolment of 150 pupils.

Junior and Senior Basic Stage

Education at the junior and senior Basic stages is based on the Wardha scheme of education initiated by Mahatma Gandhi in 1937, which was adopted by the State Government with certain modifications in 1938. The term Basic now includes education at the junior Basic stage from class I to V, and at the senior Basic stage from class VI to VIII. Mahatma Gandhi held that education ought to draw out the best in the pupil in body, mind, and spirit. This implied that free and compulsory education for a term of eight years be provided by the State, that the mother tongue be the medium of instruction, that the process of education centre on some useful handicraft enabling the child to channelize his creative ability the moment his training is begun, and finally that every school be self-supporting.

The numbers of junior and senior Basic institutions located within each municipal board of the district, with respective figures of enrolment in each of them in 1971-72 are given below :

Name of municipal board	Type of institutions			Enrolment	
	Junior Basic	Senior Basic	Total	Boys	Girls
Muzaffarnagar	47	—	9,147	5,254	3,893
Kairana	15	1	2,469	2,469	—
Shamli	13	3	2,595	1,483	1,112
Khatauli	8	1	1,385	—	—
Kandhla	13	1	1,408	—	—

The numbers of junior and senior Basic institutions run by the Zila Parishad till June 1972, were 927 and 104 respectively.

The supervision, maintenance, and administrative control of these institutions was transferred to the board of Basic education, following the reorganisation of the educational set-up in July 1972, when by the Basic Shiksha Adhiniyam, the State Government vested their control in the Basic Shiksha Parishad at the State level, the Zila Shiksha Samiti at the district level, and in the Gaon Shiksha Samiti at the village level. The State body is headed by the director of Basic education, while that at the district level is headed by the district Basic education officer.

Secondary Education

The changes in the secondary system of education have been numerous in the last few decades. Initially, the old Zila schools, with a total enrolment of 60,622 pupils. Of these the number of boys' institutions was 70, with an enrolment of 49,762 pupils, there being 10,860 pupils in the 18 girls' schools. Some relevant details regarding the higher secondary institutions of the district and the progress of general education in it are provided in Statements I and II at the conclusion of the chapter.

In 1971-72, the district had 88 higher secondary institutions with a total enrolment of 60,622 pupils. Of these the number of boys' institutions was 70, with an enrolment of 49,762 pupils, there being 10,860 pupils in the 18 girls' schools. Some relevant details regarding the higher secondary institutions of the district and the progress of general education in it are provided in Statements I and II at the conclusion of the chapter.

Education of Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes

The education of members of the Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes has continued to be of great importance to the government ever since the country achieved Independence. Numerous benefits are provided to members of these communities, e.g. girl students being exempted from all payments up to the higher secondary stage, the deserving ones also receiving scholarships and other aids. Boys belonging to these communities are exempted from payment of fees up to class VI, while wards of those having a monthly income of Rs 250 and below are exempted from payment of fees in higher classes as well. The following statement shows the numbers of such pupils in the district receiving education at the Basic and higher secondary levels in 1971-72 :

Type of school	Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes		
	Boys	Girls	Total
Junior Basic	19,023	15,528	34,551
Senior Basic	1,688	228	1,916
Higher secondary (up to class X)	801		823
Higher secondary (up to class XII)	3,655	196	3,851

Higher Education

The number of institutions imparting education up to the under-and post-graduate levels came up to 7 in 1971-72. Of these 6 imparted education to both boys and girls, while only one i.e. the Jain Kanya Degree College, Muzaffarnagar, functioned exclusively for girls. The Chhotu Ram College, the D. A. V. Post-graduate College, and the S. D. Degree College are located in Muzaffarnagar. In Shamli there are the V. V. Degree College and the R. K. Degree College, while there is only one college located in Khatauli, namely, the K. K. Jain Degree College.

The S. D. Degree College, Muzaffarnagar, established in 1900, offers courses in both science and arts subjects at the graduation and post-graduation levels. The total enrolment in this institution in 1971-72 was 1,624 pupils, of which 217 were girls, the total strength of the teaching staff being 78. The D. A. V. College, Muzaffarnagar, established in 1918, also offers courses at the graduation and post-graduation levels. The total number of students in this institutions in 1971-72 was 1,763, with a strength of 86 teachers.

The V. V. Post-graduate College, Shamli, imparts education up to the post-graduation level in both arts and science subjects and its total enrolment in 1971-72 was 429 students (including 31 girls), with a teaching staff of 14. In the same year the R. K. Degree College, a post-graduate institution also located in Shamli, had 359 students on rolls with a teaching staff of 28, and the K. K. Jain Degree College, Khatauli, had 205 students including 45 girls on rolls.

PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

The Industrial Training Institute at Muzaffarnagar was established in 1963 and has been functioning ever since as a professional institute of technical education in such trades as carpentry and smithy. The trainees are awarded a National Trade Certificate on successful completion of their training, under the auspices of the National Council for training in vocational trades (Union Ministry of Labour Employment and Rehabilitation). Stipends up to Rs 25 per month are awarded to about 33 per cent of the trainees, ex-servicemen and political sufferers being given preference for the same. In 1971-72 this institute had 266 trainees.

Oriental Education

Sanskrit—There were four institutions providing Sanskrit-oriented education in the district in 1971-72, the oldest being the Shiva Sanskrit Vidyalaya at Khatauli founded in 1926. The courses of study offered are specialised studies in Sanskrit literature and grammar in addition to a sprinkling of other subjects. It had 65 students and 5 teachers.

The Sanatana Dharma Sanskrit Vidyalaya, Muzaffarnagar, was established in 1931, the total enrolment in 1971-72 being 33

students with 5 teachers on the instructional staff. The enrolment figures in the other two Sanskrit institutions of Muzaffarnagar, the Sanatana Dharma Sanskrit Pathshala and the Shukdeva Vidyapith, Shukartal, were 70 and 16 respectively, with a teaching staff of 4 and 2 respectively. The curriculum in all these institutions is basically the same. All these institutions are attached to the Varanaseya Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya, Varanasi.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical education forms part of the curriculum of all the institutions from the Basic to the secondary level. District competitions in games and sports are also organised in rural as well as urban areas.

FINE ARTS

Music and Dance—The district may be said to have achieved a place of importance in the field of classical music by virtue of having produced such an eminent *khayal* singer as Ustad Abdul Wahid Khan (died 1965), who founded the Kairana *gharana* (or the school of music originating in Kairana). A number of disciples of the maestro, all tracing their musical lineage to this *gharana*, are currently employed as staff artistes in the A. I. R.

Popular varieties of folk-music prevalent throughout western U. P. e.g. the Alha, are popular in this district as well, and are sung at different times of the year.

A number of open-air performances, combining the rural style of folk-music and dances with a central theme are a regular feature of rural life in the district. The advent of the cinema has undoubtedly curtailed their popularity, but *swangs* (caricatures) or *nautankis* continue to be popular among rural folk even today.

LIBRARIES AND READING ROOMS

The Peace Library, Muzaffarnagar, is the most prominent library in the district, being managed by a private committee under the general supervision of the municipal board, Muzaffarnagar.

The library traces its origin to the year 1919, being registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1960. It possesses its own spacious building and also maintains a reading-room which is accessible to all free of cost. The institution receives an annual recurring aid from the State Government. Books in it in 1973-74 numbered 5,059, covering a wide range of subjects.

MEN OF LETTERS

Urdu

Poet Sadullah, one of the earliest known men of letters of this region, flourished in the seventeenth century. Said to be an adopted son of Muqarrab Khan, Sadullah was popularly known by his pseudonym of Masiha-i-Kairanavi. He is described as the author of an epic work containing numerous couplets dedicated to the divine theme of love between Sita and Ram.

The district has also contributed in no mean measure to the field of Urdu literature by having produced one of its leading humorists, Shaukat 'Thanvi', who originally belonged to Thana Bhawan and later shifted to Lucknow. He was the author of a number of short stories and is remembered as one of the few humorists in the Urdu language in recent times. He migrated to Pakistan in the post-partition period where his last days were spent.

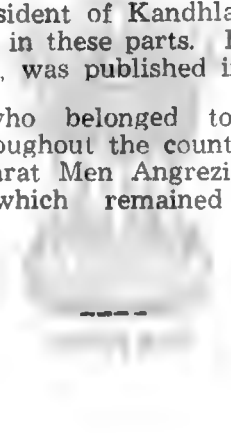
Narain Kaul, Mohammad Ishaq Ilam of Muzaffarnagar, and Khwaja Adil Husain 'Adil' were the other Urdu poets of the district.

Laxman Swaroop of Kairana (died app. 1944), who later migrated to Lahore, was well-versed in English, Sanskrit, and several other languages.

Hindi

Lalji Kayastha, a resident of Kandhla, was well known as a Hindi writer of his times in these parts. His work entitled 'Bhakt Urvashi', in two volumes, was published in 1808 Samvat.

Pandit Sunder Lal who belonged to Khatauli was born in 1886. He is popular throughout the country as the author of the revolutionary work, 'Bharat Men Angrezi Rajya', published both in Hindi and English, which remained prescribed under the British rule.



STATEMENT I

Higher Secondary Institutions

Reference Page No. 228

Institution	Year of establish- ment	Years of upgrading (level)	Year	No. of teachers	No. of pupils in 1971-72
1	2	3	4	5	6
Hindu Inter College, Kandhla	1875	Junior Basic Senior Basic Higher Secondary Intermediate	1875 1915 1933 1947	33	825
Arya Kanya Path- shala, Inter College, Muzaffarnagar	1905	Senior Basic Higher Secondary Intermediate	1927 1954 1961	35	1,171
S. D. Inter College, Muzaffarnagar	1906	Senior Basic Higher Secondary Intermediate	1906 1917 1939	95	2,832
Sita Saman Inter College, Khatauli	1913	Senior Basic Higher Secondary Intermediate	1936 1946 1949	44	1,028
D.A.V. Inter College, Muzaffarnagar	1917	Senior Basic Higher Secondary Intermediate	1917 1920 1945	60	1,582
Govt. Inter College, Muzaffarnagar	1917	N.A.		37	623
K. K. Jain Inter College,	1926	Senior Basic Higher Secondary Intermediate	1936 1944 1947	47	1,227
Islamia Inter College, Muzaffar- nagar	1927	Senior Basic Higher Secondary Intermediate	1927 1932 1951	21	546
Public Inter College, Kairana	1932	Senior Basic High School Intermediate	1932 1943 1953	37	1,342

1	2	3	4	5	6
Jain Kanya Higher Secondary School, Muzaffarnagar	1934	Senior Basic High School	1951 1959	26	710
Grain Chamber Inter College, Muzaffarnagar	1937	Senior Basic Intermediate	1937 —	32	1,000
C.L. Inter College, Kandhla	1938	Senior Basic Higher Secondary Intermediate	1938 1941 1951	52	1,281
Amrik Inter College, Rohana	1943	Senior Basic Higher Secondary Intermediate	1943 1947 1951	38	985
Jain Kanya Inter College, Shamli	1944	Senior Basic High School Intermediate	1944 1960 1964	26	804
Kisan Inter College, Alipurkheri	1944	Senior Basic High School Intermediate	1944 1952 1954	41	1,035
D.A.V. Inter College, Jansath	1945	Senior Basic High School Intermediate	1945 — —	41	1,031
Inter College, Kurmali	1945	Senior Basic High School Intermediate	1945 1962 1970	31	772
Barla Inter College	1946	Senior Basic High School Intermediate	1946 1948 1955	32	848
Kashyap Maharishi Higher Secondary School	1946	Senior Basic High School	1946 1950	10	152
Gandhi Inter College, Charthawal	1948	Senior Basic High School Intermediate	1948 1949 1953	26	553
Jai Hind Inter College, Charthawal	1948	Senior Basic High School Intermediate	1948 1951 1966	29	747

[Continued ;

1	2	3	4	5	6
D. A. V. Inter College, Budhana	1949	Senior Basic High School Intermediate	1949 1951 1962	47	1,465
Rashtriya Kisan Inter College, Shamli	1949	Senior Basic High School	1952 1957	52	6,218
Rashtriya Inter College, Shahpur	1949	Senior Basic High School Intermediate	1950 1950 1966	38	1,171
Sri Sukhun Lal Adarsh Kanya College, Miranpur	1949	Senior Basic High School Intermediate	1952 1967 1969	14	388
Jai Bharat Inter College, Chhapar	1950	Senior Basic High School Intermediate	1950 1952 1970	28	676
Zila Parishad, Higher Secondary School, Kakrauli	1951	Senior Basic Higher Secondary	1951 1966	13	580
Janta Inter College, Babri	1951	Senior Basic Higher Secondary Intermediate	1951 1960 1969	37	1,024
Hindu Kanya Inter College, Shamli	1951	Junior Basic Senior Basic High School Intermediate	1951 1959 1962 1965	28	752
Inter College, Ailam	1951	High School Intermediate	1951 1965	32	933
Kisan Inter College, Kharar	1951	—	—	25	631
Janta Higher Secon- dary School, Bach	1952	Senior Basic High School	1952 1969	10	297
D. A. V. Inter College, Sisauli	1954	Senior Basic High School Intermediate	1954 1956 1963	28	1,040

1	2	3	4	5	6
Inter College, Bhukarheri	1955	Senior Basic High School Intermediate	1955 1966 1972	16	553
Gomti Kanya Inter College, Jansath	1956	Senior Basic High School Intermediate	1956 1963 1967	19	546
S. D. Kanya Inter College, Gandhi Colony, Muzaffarnagar	1959	Senior Basic High School Intermediate	1959 1963 1966	27	738
K. K. Higher Secondary School, Kuralsi	1962	Senior Basic High School Intermediate	1962 1963 1970	24	432
Ramdei Inter College, Sikkawar	1963	Senior Basic High School Intermediate	1963 1964 1968	29	585
D. A. V. Higher Secondary School	1963	Senior Basic High School	1963 1965	17	532
Brigadier Hoshnar Singh Memorial Higher Secondary School, Shamli	1963	—	—	10	254
Arya Kanya Higher Secondary School, Budhana	1965	Senior Basic High School	1965 1968	9	229
Janta Inter College, Gangadhari	1966	Senior Basic High School Intermediate	1966 1967 1969	27	489
Adarsh Janta Higher Secondary School, Luhari	1967	Senior Basic Higher Secondary	1967	5	91
Janta Kanya Higher Secondary School, Shivpuri, Khatauli	1968	Senior Basic Intermediate	1969 1972	21	591

STATEMENT II
General Education

Reference Page No. 236

Year	Junior Basic education			Senior Basic education			Higher secondary education		
	No. of students		Number of schools	No. of students		Number of schools	No. of students		Number of schools
	Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1961-62	749	66,509	21,457	75	16,898	3,011	54	12,811	1,367
1962-63	806	69,093	27,896	77	17,849	3,555	56	13,962	1,700
1963-64	881	70,754	31,866	77	20,667	5,393	62	14,340	2,039
1964-65	1,152	1,06,258	51,935	78	23,422	4,888	65	15,834	2,327
1965-66	1,193	1,13,687	64,462	93	32,607	8,848	77	23,814	55,19
1966-67	1,129	1,07,154	59,384	97	11,041	2,680	75	37,325	10,224
1967-68	1,146	1,08,281	59,888	113	12,155	2,813	77	38,343	10,411
1968-69	1,158	1,09,003	60,455	127	13,054	3,241	84	40,212	11,323
1969-70	1,170	1,28,439	72,302	125	14,000	3,544	84	43,115	12,523
1970-71	1,182	1,27,959	73,916	124	14,093	3,816	88	44,043	12,604

CHAPTER XVI

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Medical Facilities in Early Times

Practitioners of the Ayurvedic system, known as *vaid*s, were well known in the region comprising the present district in the past, the services rendered to the common people being free, or in most cases at a very nominal fee. Usually important and costly medicines were prepared by the *vaid*s themselves under their direct supervision. Common drugs and herbs, as prescribed by the *vaid*s, were sold by local shopkeepers usually known as *attars*.

With the establishment of Muslim rule in the country, the Unani system of medicine based on the Arabic and Greek systems was introduced into the district. The physicians and surgeons of this system are known as *hakims*, and *jarrahs* (surgeon-barbers) respectively.

The allopathic system of medicine was introduced into the district in the nineteenth century. Hospitals and dispensaries were opened and put under the control of the district board, while a civil-surgeon looked after their administration with the help of junior doctors.

The first allopathic dispensary at Muzaffarnagar was opened in 1868. Dispensaries were opened at Kairana, Jansath, and Kandhla in 1872, 1890, and 1892 respectively. A female hospital at Muzaffarnagar and a female dispensary at Budhana were established in 1899.

In 1915 a dispensary was set up at Jalalabad with liberal donations from the local people, the chief donor being Lala Shadi Ram. Five years later the Bambilas Charitable dispensary was set up at Muzaffarnagar in which a female section was added in 1930. In the same year a female dispensary was started at Jansath through the efforts of Khan Sahib Sayed Ashfaq Husain. Later on hospitals at Shamli, Jalalabad, Phugana, and Kutubpur were opened.

In 1973 there were 24 Ayurvedic dispensaries in the district, out of which 9 were under the control of the directorate of Ayurvedic and Unani medicine. These were located at Mirzapur, Baghra, Babria colony, Gokul Ghazi, Jhinhana, Biralsi, Babri, Bhaiwoal and Lachmera. The remaining 15 dispensaries, which were situated at Datiyana, Pura Hathchoya Kakroli, Kurthal, Tugalaqpur, Alam, Toda, Locka, Jasoe, Kasampurkhola Mavalpur, Rasoolpur, Gujran, Shamli, and Bhojaheri, were looked after by the Zila Parishad.

There were 6 Unani dispensaries in the district in 1973 located at Shahpur, Mansurpur, Jasoola, Badaulu, Khorgayan, and Chausaria.

In addition to these, the district also possesses a police hospital for police personnel, a jail hospital for convicts, a T. B. clinic, and an eye hospital. A large number of health, maternity, and family planning centres are also functioning in the district. The deputy chief medical officer (health) is responsible for vaccination in the district and is mainly concerned with the prevention of epidemics, enforcement of sanitary measures, as well as with registration of births and deaths. He is assisted by other medical officers, several sanitary inspectors, vaccinators, and other miscellaneous staff.

VITAL STATISTICS

An examination of the vital statistics of the district since the last decade of the nineteenth century reveals that the birth-rate has been considerably higher than the death-rate, although the latter has shown great variations in successive years. Both have shown considerable decline in recent years. The figures available are not very reliable as serious omissions in the registration of births and deaths are apprehended, yet they are indicative of a general trend.

The figures given below would give some idea of the situation :

Period	Birth-rate (per thousand)		Death-rate (per thousand)	
	Maximum year		Maximum Year	
1931-1940	37.1	(Mean)	21.3	(Mean)
1941-1950	52.0	1949	20.8	1943
1951-1960	21.7	1960	11.8	1960

The following statement gives the total number of registered births and deaths between 1967 and 1971 :

Year	Number of births	Birth- rate	Number of deaths	Death-rate
1967	29,396	20.6	12,188	9.1
1968	27,607	19.9	12,197	9.1
1969	5,854	(urban areas only)	1,396	(urban areas only)
1970	11,255	"	3,116	"
1971	6,373	"	1,562	"

Infant Mortality

The rate of mortality among children below one year in age was quite alarming till 1947. It has been considerably reduced in

recent years with the introduction of modern systems of midwifery and rapid implementation of maternity and child welfare schemes. The figures of infant mortality between 1951 and 1960 had varied between 710 and 722. Between 1961 and 1965 it went up to 911. The following figures give the position between 1966 and 1971 :

Year	Number of deaths
1966	785
1967	615
1968	590
1969	273 (urban areas only)
1970	631
1971	256 (urban areas only)

DISEASES

Common Diseases

The common diseases which account for a large number of deaths in the district are fever, diarrhoea, dysentery, and respiratory disorders. Death caused by epidemics is now completely controlled.

Fever—The term 'fever' has a wide connotation which includes malaria and typhoid. It also covers many unidentified diseases of which fever is only a symptom. It was observed that the spread of malarial fever was mainly due to the construction of canals in the district. In the year 1868 the number of deaths was 4,131, and only two years later the number rose to 16,855, which was over 67 per cent of the total deaths of the year. In 1871 the government organised a special drive by opening temporary dispensaries in the district for the relief of fever-stricken people. But fever continued to take a heavy toll of lives in subsequent years. From 1879 to 1900 the average mortality from fever amounted to 21,000 persons each year.

Statistics show that fever was the main cause of high mortality rate in the district in the years around the beginning of the present century. The figure reaching a record number of 53,000 deaths caused by it.

With the improvement of medical and health services deaths from fever have declined as the following statement shows :

Year	No. of deaths
1967	2,990
1968	2,660
1969	714 (urban areas only)
1970	2,055
1971	563 (urban areas only)

Dysentery and Diarrhoea—These diseases begin in the form of bowel and stomach complaints. During the 19th century both of these diseases had been the cause of a large number of deaths in

the district. From the beginning of this century till the fifties the number of deaths from dysentery and diarrhoea did not exceed 719. The following statement would give an idea of the number of deaths from these diseases between 1967 and 1971 :

Year	No. of deaths
1967	620
1968	540
1969	42 (urban areas only)
1970	298
1971	106 (urban areas only)

Respiratory Diseases—Such diseases generally cause temporary or permanent infirmity except in a few cases in which they prove fatal. In 1941, 1951, 1958, 1959, 1967, and 1968 the mortality figures owing to these diseases were 468, 398, 340, 309, 1,360, and 960 respectively. These show that the number of deaths from these diseases has increased in the last decade as a result of air pollution caused by smoke and dust, by natural affluents of heavy industrialisation, and by the ever-developing heavy rail and road transport. The fast speed of modern mechanised means of travel and transport also prove hazardous for the lungs and result in a number of respiratory diseases.

Epidemics

Smallpox, cholera, and plague took a heavy toll of lives in the district till the enforcement of the Vaccination Act of 1886 which made primary vaccination compulsory. The responsibility of dealing with the outbreak of an epidemic rests with the deputy chief medical officer (health), who is assisted by a field staff. Medical officers in charge of State and Zila Parishad dispensaries also carry out preventive work during the spread of epidemics. The district magistrate is authorised (under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1871) to remove patients to hospitals, segregate them, disinfect their dwellings, or evacuate them from infected houses and localities, and to close down educational institutions in order to check the spread of the epidemic.

Smallpox—Smallpox has been recurrent for more than 1500 years in U. P. Even in its mildest form it can easily be diagnosed by the village chowkidar or *pradhan*, who is supposed to record the cause of a death. Generally it spreads during summers, reaching its peak in the month of May. With the beginning of the monsoon it gradually subsides and finally vanishes away with the advent of winter. The mortality from smallpox in the district between 1877 and 1954 varied from 0.66 to 0.15 per cents of the total number of deaths. In 1883 as many as 1,156 deaths were caused by this disease, but in subsequent years it showed a remarkable decline, as in 1897 only 380 persons died of this disease. The following statement gives an idea of how

this disease has affected human life in the district from 1950 onwards :

Year	No. of deaths
1950	337
1958	182
1966	79

After 1966 only stray cases have been reported in the district.

Cholera—Generally this disease breaks out in summers, suddenly intensifies in May, and culminates in June. Humidity, high temperature, and the prevalence of flies play an important part in its seasonal incidence. The disease generally spreads in the wake of fairs and festivals which usually occur in the summers. Sometimes the newly harvested crop of grain in April appears to act as a gastro-intestinal irritant which often develops into cholera infection.

The origin of cholera in an epidemic form may be traced as far back as 1867, when pilgrims from Hardwar imported its infection in the district. It soon assumed a virulent form and claimed 2,051 lives. In 1891 it broke out again in the district with more ferocity taking a toll of over 40,000 lives. Only a year later it yet again visited the district and caused 575 deaths. The figures given below show how this disease has affected human life in the district from 1921 onwards :

Year	No. of deaths
1921	963
1947	170
1951	79

In the sixties of this century not a single case of cholera was reported.

Plague—Plague has been one of the principal diseases of the district as it constituted a part of the endemic-epidemic region. It spread in an epidemic form in the district in the early years of the present century. Nearly 14,000 persons died in 1905 and the number of deaths reached the record figure of about 49,000 in 1907. In 1911 the district again suffered a loss of more than 25,000 lives on account of a severe outbreak of bubonic plague.

In 1926 there was an outbreak of plague in some parts of the district. Since then up to 1948 the disease has not assumed epidemic dimensions in the district, and the number of deaths has fluctuated between 1,000 and 4,000 in a single year.

After 1948 there have been only stray cases of plague in the district.

Other Diseases

Blindness, deafness, dumbness, insanity, leprosy, and tuberculosis are some other common diseases prevalent in the district as in other parts of the State. After the achievement of independence the government has made substantial and planned efforts to improve the environmental conditions and health of the people. These measures have considerably checked the incidence of diseases in the district. The Nehru Eye Hospital at Muzaffarnagar provides treatment for eye diseases such as cataract, glaucoma, and trachoma. Most modern and up-to-date facilities for treatment are available for patients of tuberculosis in the district hospital at Muzaffarnagar, which has a separate T.B. section attached to it. Although no special and exclusive hospitals or dispensaries for providing treatment of leprosy, deafness, and dumbness are functioning in the district, the existing hospitals provide the necessary treatment.

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH ORGANIZATION

The separate departments of medical and public health of the State were amalgamated in 1948 under a directorate to control the allopathic, the Ayurvedic, and the Unani institutions and services. In 1961, a separate directorate was created to control, administer, and finance the Ayurvedic and the Unani dispensaries in the State, though at the district level the administration of these dispensaries was looked after by a single medical officer of health. The medical set-up at the district level up to July 1973 provided for a civil-surgeon at the head of the entire medical activities in the district and a medical officer of health to assist him. Below these were the medical officers in charge of hospitals and dispensaries, together with a number of sanitary inspectors and other subordinate staff.

Since 1973 the chief medical officer is at the head of the entire medical set-up, including all the State hospitals and dispensaries in the district. He is assisted by three deputies, designated as deputy chief medical officer (health), deputy chief medical officer (medical), and deputy chief medical officer (family planning). The deputy chief medical officer (family planning) looks after the work of family planning and organizes family planning camps. Sanitary inspectors look after the environmental sanitation work in each development block, and supervise work relating to the prevention and control of epidemics and impart health education to the villagers. The following statement gives some particulars

of public health activities undertaken in the district in the different Five-year Plans :

Work	First Five-year Plan	Second Five-year Plan	Third Five-year Plan
No. of drinking wells constructed	N.A.	50	42
No. of old wells improved	—	70	65
No. of hand-pumps improved	—	709	1,151
No. of washing and bathing platforms built	—	191	201
No. of smokeless <i>chulahs</i> (ovens) constructed	—	196	261
No. of sanitary latrines built	—	708	1,141
Length of kutchra drains constructed	—	841 km.	1,061 km.
Length of pukka drains constructed	—	1,941 km.	2,660 km.

Hospitals

There are four State hospitals in the district, two each for men and women. Besides these, there is a private eye hospital, a police, and a jail hospital. The district hospital, Muzaffarnagar, has 92 beds, 76 for males and the rest for females, and is equipped with an X-ray plant. It also has a separate clinic for the treatment of tuberculosis. The government male hospital, Shamli, has a total strength of 20 beds.

Among female hospitals, the District Womens' Hospital, Muzaffarnagar, has 46 beds and the female hospital, Shamli, has 12 beds. The following statement gives information about the staff of, and the patients treated in, State hospitals in 1970 :

Hospitals	Staff		No. of patients treated	
	No. of doctors	Others	In-door	Out-door
District Hospital, Muzaffarnagar	8	44	3,162	50,200
Government Male Hospital, Shamli	1	8	82	12,580
District Women's Hospital, Muzaffarnagar	2	—	3,128	14,949
Women's Hospital, Shamli	—	4	129	4,034

Dispensaries

Allopathic—The following statement gives details about the staff, number of beds, and number of patients treated at the allopathic dispensaries in the district in 1970 :

Dispensary	Staff		No of beds	No. of patients treated	
	No of doctors	Others			
				In-door	Out-door
Khatauli dispensary	1	3	4	51	9,047
Bhapa dispensary	1	3	4	79	7,203
Kutubpur dispensary	1	3	8	—	4,346
Megha Khari dispensary	1	3	4	—	1,760
Baghra dispensary	1	3	4	—	5,617
Charthawal dispensary	1	3	4	—	1,213
Thana Bhawan dispensary	1	3	4	—	1,920
Kurmali dispensary	—	3	4	—	3,360
Kairana dispensary	1	3	4	36	7,073
Un dispensary	1	3	4	—	5,860
Kandhla dispensary	1	3	4	48	5,880
Budhana dispensary	1	3	4	70	5,660
Shahpur dispensary	1	3	4	—	2,860
Morana dispensary	—	3	4	—	2,830
Purqazi dispensary	1	3	4	—	5,668
Janpath dispensary	1	3	4	—	7,873
Galibpur dispensary	1	3	4	—	4,110
Female Khatauli dispensary	1	6	6	15	2,580
Female Kairana dispensary	—	4	6	—	5,485
Female Kandhla dispensary	—	3	6	31	1,851
Female Jansath dispensary	—	4	7	38	17,188

Ayurvedic and Unani

Details about the staff, beds, and the number of patients treated at these dispensaries in the district will be found in Statement I at the end of the chapter.

Maternity and Child Welfare

To combat the high rate of female and infant mortality, chiefly caused by the non-availability of adequate medical aid and lack of proper sanitary conditions, a network of maternity centres for attending labour cases and providing pre-natal and

post-natal care was set up in the district after 1958. Such centres are manned by midwives and *dais*. They also serve as family planning centres. Maternity centres are attached to primary health centres whose number is 14 in the district. Each primary health centre has a dispensary with four beds and is attended by a doctor, a compounder, and other staff. They provide both indoor and out-door treatment (see Statement II for details of the centres).

There is provision for nine months' training for four *dais* at each maternity centre. A stipend of Rs 15 per month is given to each trainee during the training period. No specific qualification has been laid down for the entrants except that they should be literate and adult. 7 *dais* were trained in 1969, 7 in 1970, and 5 in 1971.

Vaccination

The deputy chief medical officer of health is in charge of vaccination work, and is assisted by a chief sanitary inspector, sanitary inspectors, and a team of vaccinators. The vaccination work in the rural and urban areas is performed by the basic health workers. Though the Vaccination Act of 1880 was enforced in the district from its inception yet it was not made compulsory in rural areas, except during the outbreak of an epidemic. The work of vaccination has been intensified with the beginning of the national smallpox eradication scheme in 1963. Mothers are invariably advised during the post-natal period to have their child vaccinated as early as possible.

The following statement gives the number of persons vaccinated during the year 1967-1971:

Year	Number of primary vaccinations	Number of revaccinations	Total number of persons vaccinated
1967	49,358	1,00,174	1,49,532
1968	76,739	1,20,296	1,97,235
1969	83,817	98,475	1,87,292
1970	82,216	77,668	1,59,884
1971	83,805	1,35,987	2,22,792

Eye Relief

Cataract, glaucoma, and trachoma are the most common diseases of the eye in the district. A hospital named Nehru Eye Hospital, run by a voluntary agency, was established in 1954. It was declared as Base Hospital in 1968 under the zonal eye relief scheme of U. P. This hospital has 32 beds and is equipped with an X-ray plant and radio therapy apparatus. Detailed infor-

mation about the patients treated during the last five years is given below :

Year	Patients treated
1968	17,061
1969	19,426
1970	21,075
1971	26,364
1972	24,271

Prevention of Food and Drug Adulteration

The government public analyst posted at Lucknow scientifically examines the samples sent to him by the sanitary inspectors in the district, and appropriate legal action is taken against the offenders under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954. The deputy chief medical officer (health) is the licensing authority for food establishments, pharmacists, and drug stores in the district. He is assisted by a drug inspector in the task of checking adulteration of drugs and enforcement of the Indian Drugs Act, 1940, and the observance of the Drug Rules of 1945 by retailers, wholesale dealers, and manufacturing concerns in the district. The following statement gives an idea of the steps taken to prevent adulteration in food and other articles :

Year	No. of samples collected	No. of cases found adulterated	No. of prosecutions launched	No. of cases ending in conviction
1969	439	86	86	47
1970	418	82	82	37
1971	480	86	83	8

The National Malaria Eradication Programme

This programme was introduced into the district in 1958-59 with the opening of a unit at Muzaffarnagar. This unit is manned by an anti-malaria officer, 4 senior malaria inspectors, 4 malaria inspectors, and 170 field-workers. One of the main activities of the unit is the spraying of D.D.T. at least twice a year, particularly in the localities most susceptible to mosquito-breeding.

Surveillance work was started in the district in 1961 under a unit officer helped by a number of surveillance inspectors, house visitors, and laboratory technicians. The following state-

ment gives the number of persons afflicted with malaria fever from 1966 to 1970 :

Year	No. of fever cases detected	No. of persons given presumptive treatment
1966	1,19,502	1,11,528
1967	1,06,668	83,670
1968	73,600	62,082
1969	64,632	56,508
1970	80,879	71,753

Under this programme, the expert staff of the national malaria eradication organisation posted in the district pays house to house visits and detects the symptoms of malaria by taking blood samples from the patients and also suggests preliminary treatment. The deputy chief medical officer of health in the district supervises this programme. The work done in this sphere in the district from 1966 to 1970 is shown below :

Year	No. of malaria cases detected	No. of persons given elementary treatment
1966	13,217	10,115
1967	16,719	11,278
1968	47,076	38,118
1969	49,667	39,726
1970	51,574	43,222

Family Planning

The family planning scheme was introduced into the district in 1952, but it entered in an intensive phase only in 1965, when a separate medical officer designated as district family planning officer was posted here. To expedite the work in the district, a family planning bureau was also opened here in the same year.

At present the district has two mobile family planning units, one under a male doctor and the other under a lady doctor. They provide help and guidance to persons interested in family planning and also perform vasectomy and tubectomy operations. Vasectomy operation facilities are also available at the primary health centres spread all over the district.

Efforts are being made to popularise and encourage family planning activities in the district through films, posters, exhibitions, family planning camps, seminars, dramas, folk-songs, and radio talks and plays. The following statement gives an idea of the

achievements made in the field of the family planning work in the district between 1967-68 and 1972-73 :

Year	No. of vasectomy operations	No. of loop insertions
1967-68	868	2,487
1968-69	2,256	2,697
1969-70	419	1,387
1970-71	2,227	1,787
1971-72	2,115	2,288
1972-73	164	622
(Up to July, 73)		

DIET AND NUTRITION

The dietary habits of the people of the district are influenced by their living standards. They also depend to a large extent on the taste and status of the people, besides their economic circumstances. The people in the rural areas are mostly vegetarians, as meat and fish are not easily available except on market days. A recent survey conducted in the district has revealed that only about 40% of the families are non-vegetarians. Both wheat and rice are consumed as staple food, the former being the dominant of the two, the average per head per day consumption of the two cereals being 200 gm. and 100 gm. respectively. A large percentage of the people still subsists on coarse grains such as maize, *bajra*, jowar, etc., with an average per head daily consumption of 250 gm. Among the rice-eaters about 60% of the families prefer the polished variety, and the old practice of partial boiling of paddy seems to be fast disappearing. A very small section of the people still likes to eat hand-pound rice. It is washed a number of times before being put for cooking. Rice water (*mar*) is generally discarded and fed to the cattle, though in some houses it is often mixed with pulses and vegetables. The practice of grinding wheat in the homes has almost disappeared now. The majority of the families now consume machine-milled wheat-flour. Approximately 25 gm. of bran per kg. of the flour is strained out in this process. Generally the people of the district do not prefer mixed cereals, but in some families a mixture of wheat and barley or of wheat and gram, and even three-in-one, is considered a health delicacy. The daily consumption of cereals is a bit higher than the recommended quantity for a balanced diet. The latest survey has revealed that the total daily consumption of cereals is about 550 gm. as against the recommended quantity of 475 gm. per head per day. The average daily consumption of pulses is 16 gm. as against the recommended quantity of 80 gm. for vegetarians and 65 for non-vegetarians. The pulses, generally consumed, are *urd*, *moong*, and *masoor*, mostly preferred without husk. The consumption of green leafy vegetables is low, as the daily average consumption is only 50 gm. against the recommended quantity of 100 gm. The green vegetables generally consumed are amaranth, radish leaves, spinach, fenugreek, mustard plant leaves,

and *kulpha*. Among non-leafy vegetables cauliflower, cabbage *sahjan*, *kholkhol*, *singri*, tomato, carrot, brinjals, and giant capsicum are consumed in the winter months and gourd, *taroi*, *lobhia*, pumpkin, lady's-fingers, and cucumber in the summer. The common roots and tubers consumed in the district are potato, calocaria, onion, and radish. The average daily consumption of root vegetables is 100 gm. per head. The vegetables are generally cooked in an open iron pan, although stainless steel, aluminium, and Moradabadi utensils are now much in use.

The cooking medium is almost without exception, either the vegetable oils or mustard oil. Some families still prefer mustard oil and ghee as a medium of cooking. The daily per head consumption of mustard oil is 15 gm. and of ghee 5 gm., making the total fat consumption per head of 20 gm. per day as against the recommended quantity of 40 gm. Because of the greater availability of milk in the district, its consumption along with its various products such as curd, *matha*, butter, and ghee is considerably higher. Its average daily consumption is 300 gm. as against the recommended allowance of 200 gm. for vegetarians and 100 gm. for non-vegetarians. Both sugar and jaggery are consumed in fair amounts, as their average daily consumption amounts to 50 gm. as against the recommended 40 gm. Fruits such as mangoes, guavas, plums, custard-apples, oranges, and papayas are grown in the district and are consumed at an average of 60 gm. per head per day, as against the recommended quantity of 30 gm.

On the whole the diet of the people, though not particularly rich, may be said to be generally balanced, containing nearly all the essential ingredients. Consumption of milk and its allied products, along with meat, fish, and eggs has now sufficiently increased in the diet of the people, and has resulted in a sound physique of the average man and woman of the district.

STATEMENT I

List of Ayurvedic and Unani Dispensaries

Reference Page No. 244

Name	Staff		No. of patients treated
	No. of doctors	Others	
Ayurvedic Dispensaries			
Baghra Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	2	9,284
Baralsi Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	2	10,216
Babri Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	3	8,549
Bhainswal Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	2	8,832
Babria Colony Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	3	6,654
Lachurla Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	2	8,270
Mirzapur Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	2	7,722
Datiyana Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	1	9,757
Pur Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	1	4,875
Hathchoya Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	1	3,179
Kakroli Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	1	5,352
Kurthal Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	1	20,751
Tugalaqpur Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	1	10,025
Alam Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	1	10,000
Toda Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	1	9,420
Lock Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	1	5,223
Jasoi Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	1	17,833
Kasampur Khol Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	—	4,115
Mavalpur Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	1	6,625
Rasulpur Gujran Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	1	2,704
Shamli Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	1	3,501
Bhokerheri Ayurvedic Dispensary	1	1	8,435
Unani Dispensaries			
Shahpur Unani Dispensary	1	2	7,888
Mansurpur Unani Dispensary	1	1	14,516
Jasoola Unani Dispensary	1	1	7,077
Hedaulee Unani Dispensary	1	—	3,535
Khragyan Unani Dispensary	1	—	2,823
Chausaria Unani Dispensary	1	1	13,140

STATEMENT II

List of Primary Health Centres, Maternity Centres, and Maternity Sub-centres

Reference Page No. 245

Primary health centre	Maternity centre	Maternity sub-centre
Megha Kheri	Megha Kheri	Bahadurpur, Lachhera, Sisona
Baghra	Baghra	Harsauli, Pinna, Jasoi
Charthawal	Charthawal	Dudhli, Biralsi, Kuteshra
Kurmali	Kurmali	Lilon, Lank, Bhainswal
Kairana	Kairana	Bhodra, Kaserwa Kalan, Unchagaon
Un	Un	Chausana, Garhi Pukhta, Zohaijhana
Kandhla	Kandhla	Bhabisa, Gaugeru, Ailam, Khaudrawali, Ussarh
Budhana	Budhana	Jotla, Tooda, Mohamadpur Ralsi
Shahpur	Shahpur	Purwalian, Sisauli
Morna	Morna	Bhokerheri, Tisia, Godla
Purkazi	Purkazi	Tugalaqpur, Chhapar, Gardhanpur
Jansath	Jansath	Meerapur, Ram raj, Kutubpur, Sambhal Hera, Chitaura, Sikhera
Galibpur	Galibpur	Badsu, Khatauli, Mansoorpur, Khan-jahanpur.
Thana Bhawan	Thana Bhawan	Jalalabad, Babri, Madalpur, Garhi Abdullah

CHAPTER XVII OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

LABOUR WELFARE

Labour Welfare Legislations

After the British had firmly established themselves in the doab (in 1803), a number of statutes were enforced for the amelioration of the condition of the working classes. The first of such Acts was the Apprentices Act, 1850, its object being to enable children to learn trades and crafts to get employment. In 1853, the Fatal Accidents Act was passed to provide compensation to workers in case of death on duty.

Regarding industrial disputes, the earliest legislation was the Employers and Workmen (Disputes) Act, 1860, aiming at speedy disposal of disputes. This Act was modified by the Trade Disputes Act, 1929, which also provided for the establishment of a court of enquiry and a conciliation board for examining and settling disputes. In 1947, the Government of India enacted the Industrial Disputes Act, following which the State Government also passed the U. P. Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. The industrial disputes which are not resolved by persuasion, mediation or negotiation, are referred to the industrial tribunal or the labour court, the decision of which is binding on the parties.

For the improvement of the working conditions of industrial workers, various legislations were effected. The first Indian Factories Act, 1881, was enacted, after a labour unrest in 1877. It provided welfare measures for child labour and prohibited employment of children below seven years, and those between 7 and 12 were not to work for more than 9 hours. The Factory Act was passed in 1891, providing for labour welfare, inspection, ventilation, and sanitation in factories. The Factory Act of 1911, provided for limited hours of work, period of rest, interval, safety, and prohibited night duty for women. On the recommendations of the Royal Commission for labour, the Factory Act, 1934, was enacted to provide additional facilities for workers. It made the provincial governments responsible for administration of the Act. A chief inspector of factories was appointed under it. The Factories Act of 1948, which replaced all the former Factories Act, provided regulated working conditions, including hours of work, leave with wages, security against occupational diseases, safeguards for health, hygiene, and welfare measures like first-aid appliances, canteens, Creches, cool drinking water, etc., near the place of work.

The fourth decade of this century is a landmark in the history of the industrialization of this district. Four large-scale sugar mills were established in 1932-34 at Mansurpur, Khatauli, Shamli, and Rohana Kalan.

With the rapid growth of industries in the district, the number of labourers naturally increased. The labour department of the State paid more attention towards the welfare of labour

class and appointed one labour inspector in the district in 1955. Subsequently one more labour inspector was appointed in 1970. In 1972, there were about 10,000 labourers employed in 225 registered factories. The labourers of the district enjoyed all welfare facilities provided under the various Central and State legislations and welfare schemes enforced in the district, like regulated working conditions, minimum standard of lighting, ventilation, safety, canteens, leave, holidays, medical treatment, regulated wages, timely payment of wages, bonus at the rate of 8.33 to 20 per cent, payment of compensation, maternity benefits, labour welfare centre, housing, recreation, holiday-home, etc. Settlement of industrial disputes is done by the conciliation board functioning through its regional headquarters at Meerut. The labour court is also situated at Meerut.

After Independence in 1947, the government took more interest in promoting the welfare of the labour class. The bulk of legislation have, therefore been enacted thereafter. The 14 labour legislations were in operation in the district in 1972. Among these, seven Acts (passed before 1947), viz., the Indian Boilers Act, 1923, the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, the Employment of Children Act, 1938, the U. P. Maternity Benefits Act, 1938, and the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1947, are still operating after having been amended from time to time to suit the changing pattern. The remaining Acts enacted after 1947 were the U. P. Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, the Factories Act, 1948, the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961, the Uttar Pradesh (Industrial Establishment National Holidays) Act, 1961, the U. P. Dookan Aur Vanijya Adhithan Adhiniyam, 1962, and the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965.

The labour inspector in the district and officers of the labour department at the regional and State levels watch the enforcement of the provisions of these Acts in the factories and other establishments in the district. In 1972, 2,400 inspections were made by the labour inspectors. As a result, 300 prosecutions took place and a fine of Rs 8,000 was imposed. The largest prosecutions, numbering 195, were under the U. P. Dookan Aur Vanijya Adhithan Adhiniyam, 1962. In the same year, the Regional Conciliation Board at Meerut settled 11 industrial disputes. The amount of compensation, which was paid in the last five years to the labourers or their dependants on being involved in accidents in course of employment resulting in disablement and or death, is given below :

Year	Fatal cases		Disablement cases	
	No. of cases	Amount of compensation paid (in Rs)	No. of cases	Amount of compensation paid (in Rs)
1968	1	4,800	21	22,215
1969	1	7,000	65	36,138
1970	3	20,000	88	13,323
1971	—	—	47	34,383
1972	2	12,000	72	27,167

The State Government has also encouraged factory owners to provide houses, or extend financial assistance for the purpose, to their workers. As a result, 28 double-room quarters were built in 1972 by the Doab Sugar Mills, Shamli. The facilities provided, however, are nowhere near the expectations, although some improvement is being made year by year.

Trade Unions

The trade unions are corporate bodies which work for the benefit of their members and aim at furthering smooth relations between employers and employees. They strive to improve the economic, social, and moral condition of labour in general and to ensure payment of fair wages, provision of healthy living and working conditions, and proper medical and educational facilities to dependants. There were 33 trade unions in the district on May 30, 1973, registered with the registrar of trade unions, U. P., Kanpur, under the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926. Their particulars are given in Statement I at the end of the chapter.

Labour Welfare Centre

A labour welfare centre of class B was established at Shamli in April 1962. It is housed in a building let out by M/S Upper Doab Sugar Mills Ltd, Shamli, within the factory area. The centre staff consists of one welfare superintendent, one medical officer, two compounders, one welfare assistant, one sewing teacher, one midwife, one maid-servant, two peon-cum-chowkidars, and one sweeper. The centre runs an Ayurvedic dispensary. The centre's activities consist of cultural programmes, sewing and tailoring classes, indoor and outdoor games, and items for the education and entertainment of workers and their families. An expenditure of about Rs 10,000 is incurred every year on this centre.

Holiday Home

A Holiday Home was established at Mussoorie in the year 1962 out of the U. P. Sugar and Power, Alcohol Industries, Labour Welfare, and Development Fund. In the beginning, workers of sugar factories alone were entitled to the benefits of this home; but subsequently the facility was extended to all factory workers during the crushing season of sugar factories i.e. between September 16 and November 15 every year. The workers of sugar factories visit the home in off-season only.

Employees' State Insurance Scheme

The employees' State insurance scheme enforced here in 1974 is an integrated measure of social insurance embodied in the Employees State Insurance Act, 1948. It provides certain benefits to employees, particularly security against sickness, maternity, disablement and death because of employment injury, and medical care to insured persons, and progressively, to their families. This scheme has been introduced only within a radius of about 8 km. of Muzaffarnagar city and will benefit about 2,000 workers of 37 factories. Under this scheme an office and several dispensaries will be established.

OLD-AGE PENSION SCHEME

The old-age pension scheme was introduced in the district in November 1957. It provided for social security and pecuniary relief as specified in the rules to old men and women of 70 years or more having no source of income or relatives to support them. This age of 70 was reduced to 65 in March 1965. Professional beggars have been excluded from the scope of this scheme. The scheme was liberalised in 1962 and 1965 to include persons with a monthly income of Rs 15, and the age of eligibility for receiving pension in the case of widow cripples, or persons whom physical infirmity had rendered them totally incapable of earning a living was reduced from 65 to 60 years. The amount of pension was increased from Rs 15 to 20 in March, 1965. From January 1972, it has been raised further to Rs. 30 per month. It is paid quarterly through money-orders.

The scheme is administered by the labour commissioner, U. P., after verification of age and other details given by the applicants from the district magistrate. The tahsilwise number of beneficiaries under this scheme is given below :

Tahsil	Total number of beneficiaries in the district upto 1-1-72	No. of recipients of Pension as on 31-7-73		
		Men	Women	Total
Muzaffarnagar	335	93	62	155
Kairana	108	19	18	37
Jansath	86	15	7	22
Budhana	105	20	12	32
Total	634	147	99	246

PROHIBITION

In the district this programme is being looked after by the prohibition and social uplift officer, stationed at Meerut, and functioning under the guidance of the State Prohibition Officer at Lucknow.

A number of measures for educating the public against the use of liquor and other intoxicants, have been taken through mass contact and social pressure exercised by workers of various social uplift organisations. Audio-visual aide like the cinema, posters, and the radio have also been utilised to impress upon the people the need of removing the evils of drinking and of addiction to other intoxicants.

The district has not been declared a dry area, but there are no opium and ganja shops in it. The sale of Cocaine, *tari* or

neera is not prohibited. Yet the people do not use these intoxicants and there are no shops for their sale in the district. As elsewhere, the liquor and bhang shops remain closed on every Tuesday, as also on Holi, Dipavali, Independence Day, and October 2 and January 30—the days of Mahatma Gandhi's birth and martyrdom respectively.

In 1971, a temperance society was constituted in the district for publicity and propaganda against the use of intoxicants. The Pracharaks, work under the guidance of the district excise officer and organise meetings and seminars in the district on the lines prescribed by the prohibition and social uplift officer, Meerut. The district crime prevention society also propagates prohibition.

ADVANCEMENT OF THE SCHEDULED CASTES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

In 1950, the State Harijan Sahayak Department was set up to formulate and implement schemes for the welfare of members of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and Criminal Tribes (later to be known as denotified tribes). In 1957, a district Harijan welfare officer was posted in the district, whose designation was changed to Harijan and social welfare officer in 1961, when the Harijan Sahayak and social welfare departments were integrated. His main functions are to promote the interests of the members of the Scheduled Castes and to implement the schemes formulated by the government for their welfare and for the amelioration of their lot.

Members of the Scheduled Castes, who were considered as belonging to the depressed classes during the British rule, today have been mostly outcastes of the local society. Social workers have always striven to better their lot, but the alien government took little interest in their welfare. A half-hearted beginning was made in 1930 when a scheme was formulated for award of stipends to students belonging to the Scheduled Castes. However, it was only with the advent of Independence that concrete steps were taken for their amelioration, and in 1947 the U. P. Removal of Social Disabilities Act was passed which ensured to the members of such Castes the unrestricted enjoyment of social and religious liberties. The Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955, has rendered the practice of untouchability an offence punishable under the Act. It repealed the corresponding State Act of 1947. The State Government also threw open all avenues of employment to members of the Scheduled Castes, and major steps were taken for their adequate representation in government services and in the legislatures. In 1944, the upper age limit for the recruitment of Scheduled Castes candidates to civil posts was relaxed upto 3 years over the prescribed limit. In 1953, the reservation for the Scheduled Castes in government services was further raised from 10 to 15 per cent. In 1955, the upper age limit for Scheduled Castes candidates was raised upto 5 years for gazetted jobs as had already been done for non-gazetted posts in 1952. The government keeps a watch over the progress in the recruitment of Scheduled Castes candidates to various posts and have

time and again emphasised that the prescribed percentage for filling the posts by Scheduled Castes candidates must be achieved. Their quota has also been fixed in regard to promotions. The Scheduled Castes candidates are also given concession in application and examination fees while applying for any post.

Financial assistance is also given to the Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes of the district for their economic, social, and educational progress. The following statement shows the assistance provided by the government during the second and third Five-year Plans and in the period 1969-70 to 1971-72 :

Details of activities	II Five-year Plan		III Five-year Plan		1969-70 to 1971-72	
	Expenditure (in Rupees)	No. of beneficiaries	Expenditure (in Rupees)	No. of beneficiaries	Expenditure (in Rupees)	No. of beneficiaries
	1	2	3	4	5	6
State Government						
Construction of houses for Scheduled Castes	35,600	20	34,500	61	19,000	16
Development of cottage industries	19,000	97	65,075	146	20,500	92
Wells and hand-pumps	30,250	40	23,169	53	40,000	191
Agricultural development	10,600	40	48,000	191	12,500	26
Award of Scholarships Stipends, etc.						
(1) Scheduled Castes	Nil	Nil	1,55,020	1,997	3,32,436	3,108
(2) Other Backward Classes	Nil	Nil	47,818	695	76,394	1,152
(3) Denotified Tribes	Nil	Nil	6,138	150	6,138	150
Reimbursement grant	Nil	Nil	5,17,456	20,749	7,90,000	11,465
Grant to institutions	Nil	Nil	14,708	4	59,450	4
Central Government						
Agricultural advancement of denotified tribes	2,100	7	20,000	43	5,000	8
Development of cottage industries for denotified tribes	19,700	95	33,557	145	4,000	24
Construction of houses for denotified tribes	1,000	1	20,109	34	5,000	5
Scholarship to post-matric students	Nil	Nil	7,76,740	1,782	11,62,205	3,913

CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS

Five trusts and endowments in the district duly registered with the Treasurer, Charitable Endowment, Uttar Pradesh, Allahabad, under the Charitable Endowments Act, 1890, function mainly for charitable and educational purposes. A brief account of these is given below:

Muzaffarnagar High School Endowment Trust—This was registered on November 26, 1891, being created for the upgrading of Muzaffarnagar High School with an investment of Rs 2,000. Its annual income is Rs 60 only.

Suganchand Vivah and Marriage Endowment—This trust, registered on June 9, 1893, was created by Lala Tola Ram and Lala Shambhu Nath of Saharanpur in 1892. Under it a Sanskrit scholarship was endowed on the occasion of the marriages of the son and nephew of the donors with the object of setting an example to the people of the country that there were more profitable ways of spending money than indulging in extravagances at wedding feasts, and of promoting the study of Sanskrit by boys belonging to the Agarwal Vaish community.

Miller Endowment Trust—The trust was registered on December 17, 1918 with Rs 3,600 to award scholarships to brilliant agriculture students. Its annual income is about Rs 105.

Shital Prasad Kichlu Scholarship Endowment Trust—The main object of this trust also is to award scholarships to meritorious students. It was registered on May 27, 1920, with the investment of Rs 4,800. Its annual income is about Rs 141.

H. S. Gupta Education Endowment Trust, Kandhla—This is an educational trust created for the welfare of the Hindu-Anglo Sanskrit High School of Kandhla with Rs 2,000. It yields an annual income of about Rs 80 and was registered on April 26, 1934.

Shia Waqfs (Trusts)

There are 48 waqfs in the district registered with the Shia Central Board of Waqfs, U. P., created mainly for religious, educational, and charitable purposes. A brief account of the important ones is being given here :

Waqf Haji Gheesa—This was founded by Bahadur Ali on September 9, 1911, on an investment of Rs 7,000 and yields at present an income of Rs. 6,000 per annum. It is a religious *waqf*, its main objective being to maintain the Shia mosque and the attached religious school at Budhana. The *waqf* also holds religious functions during Muharrum.

Waqf Neyaz Ali—This trust was founded by Neyaz Ali on July 8, 1907, for the *azadari* and *majlises* of Hazrat Imam Husain during Muharrum. Rs 6,512 was invested in it and it yields an annual income of Rs 480.

Waqf Naushaba Begum—This is an educational and charitable *waqf* founded by Naushaba Begum on August 15, 1932. Its main object is to award scholarships to poor and deserving Shia students. Financial help is also given by it to the widows. It has an annual income of Rs 1,660.

Waqf Gulam Husain Khan—This religious *waqf* was created by Musammat Sauda Begum on January 6, 1915. Its income is spent on the maintenance of neglected Imambaras and mosques of the district. It has an income of Rs 3,275 per annum.

Sunni Waqfs

There are 346 Sunni chartable *waqfs* in the district, registered with the U. P. Sunni Central Board of Waqfs. These were created for educational, religious, and charitable purposes. The annual income and expenditure of these *waqfs* in the year 1970-71 were Rs 1,69,387 and Rs 1,60,918 respectively. Particulars about some of the important ones are given below:

Waqf Rulunuddin Nawab Mohammad Azmat Ali Khan—This religious and educational *waqf* was established in August 1908. It provides financial assistance for the maintenance of the following : Jama Masjid (Karnal), shrine Shah Sharfuddin Bu Ali Qalandar at Karnal, tomb of Khawaja Ghareeb Nawaz at Ajmer, and shrine of Makhdoom Alauddin Ahmad Shah Saber at Kaliar Sharif. This *waqf* also extends financial help to educational institutions, viz., Madarsa Islamia and Anjuman Islamia of this district, Madarsa Islamia at Karnal, Madarsa Islamia at Deoband and Saharanpur, Madarsa Nadwatul-uloom at Lucknow, and Madarsa Tanyebia Maheeda at Delhi. Some of its earnings are also spent on religious teaching, charities, and as financial assistance to pilgrims visiting Saudi Arabia.

Waqf Rai Bahadur Mohammad Hameed Khan—This *waqf* was created in July 1934. The founder of the *waqf* dedicated his landed property for charitable purposes, and the management of the famous religious Madarsa, Dar-ul-Uloom, situated at Deoband, looks after the working of the *waqf*.

Waqf Syed Ali and others—The *waqf* was created in July 1932 by Syed Ali and his relatives for the construction of a *musafirkhana* at 'he Muzaffarnagar railway station.

STATEMENT I

Trade Unions

Reference Page No. 254

Name of trade union	Date of registration	Registration number	No. of members
1	2	3	4
Upper India Chini Mill Mazdoor Union, Khatauli	23-6-47	351	346
Mansurpur Agricultural Farmers' Union	8-6-48	379	41
Chini Mill Mazdoor Union, Shamli	28-1-48	460	1,058
Mansurpur Mazdoor Union Congress of Sir Shadi Lal Sugar and General Mills, Ltd.	24-5-48	526	1,362
Bhartiya Mill Mazdoor Union, Shamli	4-6-49	697	374
Rohana Sugar Mills Workers' Union, Rohanakalan	22-11-54	1,353	339
Gandhi Adarsh Chini Mill Mazdoor Union, Rohanakalan	15-7-55	1,463	678
Chini Mill Karamchari Union, Khatauli	24-4-56	1,610	24
Rastriya Mazdoor Sangh Sugar Mill, Khatauli	5-2-60	2,109	893
Distillery Mazdoor Union, Mansurpur	7-3-62	2,356	87
Vidyut Vibhag Karamchari Union, Nagarpalika Muzaffarnagar	12-9-62	2,450	92
Chini Mill Karamchari Sangh, Shamli	15-2-62	2,685	578
Shamli Dukan Karamchari Sangh	30-3-64	2,700	84
Distillery Mazdoor Union, Shamli	9-12-64	2,785	83
Riksha Chalak Union, Muzaffarnagar	9-12-64	2,786	48

[Continued]

1	2	3	4
Muzaffarnagar Veopar Karamchari Sangh	23-11-65	2,912	134
Doodh Factory Karamchari Union, Muzaffarnagar	12-4-66	2,956	120
Nagarpalika Karamchari Union, Muzaffarnagar	28-6-66	2,975	140
Zila Press Karamchari Pakka Bagh Roorkee Sangh, Muzaffarnagar	22-2-68	3,202	12
Khatauli Engineering Works Karamchari Sangh	18-1-69	3,323	N.A.
U. P. Steels Karamchari Union, Muzaffarnagar	16-5-69	3,352	328
Sugar Mill Mazdoor Sangh, Rohanakalan, Muzaffarnagar	25-9-70	3,520	302
Rastriya Ganna Karamchari Sangh, Khatauli	19-12-70	3,567	38
Shamli Mills Shramik Sangathan, Shamli	14-12-70	3,554	491
Rastriya Congress Karamchari Sangh, Muzaffarnagar	3-1-72	3,726	N.A.
Mazdoor Hitkari Shramik Sangh, U. P., Muzaffarnagar	31-1-72	3,736	50
Swaroop Vegetable Karamchari Union, Mansurpur	3-3-72	3,754	N.A.
Karamchari Sangh Nagarpalika, Khatauli	28-12-72	3,881	175
Rastriya Mazdoor Sabha Sir Shadi Lal Sugar Mills, Mansurpur	11-1-73	3,893	N.A.
U. P., P. W. D. Mazdoor Union, Muzaffarnagar	20-3-73	3,931	N.A.
Khatauli Engineering Works Association, Khatauli	29-3-73	3,935	N.A.
Saran Engineering Mazdoor Union, Miranpur	29-3-73	3,940	N.A.
Mazdoor Sabha Sir Shadi Lal Distillery, Mansurpur	15-5-73	3,959	N.A.

CHAPTER XVIII

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

Emergence of Public Life

In this district, as elsewhere in the region, suitable instruments for the expression of public opinion, conducive to the times appear to have always existed. With the dawn of English education and other western methods of organisation, public opinion came to be voiced in a much more direct and effective manner on all matters concerning the public weal than in the previous periods. The democratic form of government adopted after Independence, and the freedom of expression guaranteed under the Constitution, have stimulated the growth of public life in almost all the sectors of human activity.

REPRESENTATION OF THE DISTRICT IN LEGISLATURE

The Government of India Act, 1935, which came into operation on April 1, 1937, introducing provincial autonomy, was the first step in the direction of the parliamentary form of government. The general elections of 1937 to the State Legislative Assembly returned two seats each for the Indian National Congress and the Muslim League candidates out of the four allotted to this district. The ministry constituted in 1937 resigned in November 1939. The next general elections were held in 1945, the Congress and the Muslim League again sharing two seats each. But following decision on an election petition, one more seat went to the Congress. In the ensuing period the communal situation in the country deteriorated steadily. The British government announced its momentous decision to withdraw from India, following which the country was partitioned and India became Independent on August 15, 1947.

State Legislature

The first general elections under the Republican Constitution were held simultaneously for the Lok Sabha and the Vidhan Sabha in February 1952 in this district also.

The district was divided into seven Vidhan Sabha constituencies, namely, Muzaffarnagar (East)-cum-Jansath (North), Muzaffarnagar (West), Kairana (North), Muzaffarnagar (Central), Kairana (South), Budhana (West), and Budhana (East)-cum-Jan-sath (South), the last-named being a double-member constituency, with one seat reserved for a Scheduled Caste candidate. There were 5,63,600 electors, out of whom 68.5 per cent exercised the right of franchise. The number of invalid votes was 9,510. In all,

50 candidates contested for these eight seats. The result was as follows :

Party/Independents	Numbers of candidates	Seats won	Valid votes polled	Percentage	Average votes per candidate
1	2	3	4	5	6
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	4	-	21,172	5.6	5,293
Indian National Congress	8	8	2,05,839	54.5	25,734
Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party	2	-	4,880	1.2	2,440
Socialist Party of India	5	-	17,120	4.8	3,424
Independents	31	-	1,28,099	33.9	4,132
Total	50	8	3,77,110	100.0	—

In the next general elections (1957), the number of Vidhan Sabha constituencies remained the same, only their names and composition being altered. The new constituencies were the single-member ones of Bhawan, Kairana, Muzaffarnagar, and Budhana, and double-member constituencies of Jansath and Shikarpur with one seat each reserved for the Scheduled Castes. The number of electors in the district was 6,50,138, of whom 5,25,761 participated in the poll. The number of invalid votes was 35,979. In all 25 candidates contested for these eight seats with the following result :

Party/Independents	Number of candidates	Seats won	Valid votes polled	Percentage	Average votes per candidate
1	2	3	4	5	6
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	7	-	48,038	9.8	6,862
Communist Party of India	1	-	11,279	2.4	11,279
Indian National Congress	8	6	2,54,567	51.9	42,428
Praja Socialist	3	1	57,020	11.6	19,006
Independents	6	1	1,18,878	24.3	19,813
Total	25	8	4,89,782	100.0	—

In the third general elections, held in 1962, the number of seats remained as before, but all the constituencies were converted into single-member ones and named the Budhana, Shikarpur, Jansath, Muzaffarnagar, Kairana, Bhawan, Bhokarheri, and Baghara constituencies, with the two last-named being reserved ones. Out of 6,80,365 electors 4,26,621 exercised the right of franchise. The

invalid votes numbered 27,114. The following table indicates the general result :

Party/Independents	Number of candidates	Seats won	Valid votes polled	Percentage	Average votes per candidate
1	2	3	4	5	6
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	6	-	32,922	8.2	5,487
Communist Party of India	2	1	60,287	15.8	30,143
Indian National Congress	8	5	1,47,411	36.8	18,426
Praja Socialist	6	1	49,508	12.3	8,251
Socialist Party of India	3	-	25,628	6.3	8,542
Swatantra	4	-	10,777	2.5	2,694
Independents	9	1	72,974	19.1	8,108
Total	38	8	3,99,507	100.0	—

For the general elections of 1967, the numbers of constituencies as well as of the seats remained unaltered, but the names of constituencies were again changed. The newly formed single-member constituencies were the Kandhla, Khatauli, Morna, Muzaffarnagar, Kairana, Bhawan, Jansath, and Charthawal, the last two being reserved ones. There were 8,05,337 electors out of whom 5,08,921 participated in the polls. The number of invalid votes was 41,945. The detailed result of this election is given below :

Party/Independents	Number of candidates	Seats won	Valid votes polled	Percentage	Average votes per candidate
1	2	3	4	5	6
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	6	-	31,031	6.6	5,172
Communist Party of India	4	1	64,444	13.8	16,111
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	1	-	7,949	1.7	7,949
Indian National Congress	8	5	1,46,243	31.3	18,280
Republican Party of India	5	-	25,863	5.6	5,172
Socialist Party of India	4	1	44,166	9.5	11,041
Swatantra	6	-	18,192	3.9	3,032
Independents	27	1	1,29,108	27.6	4,781
Total	61	8	4,66,996	100.0	—

The Vidhan Sabha constituted after the general elections of 1977 was dissolved on February 25, 1968, following defections by

a number of members from the Congress legislature party in the Vidhan Sabha. The government had to resign, and President's rule was enforced in the State. A mid-term poll was held after about a year, in which the number of seats and the names of the constituencies remained unchanged. Out of 8,67,710 electors, 5,67,513 participated in the voting and the number of invalid votes was 13,095. The details are given below :

Party/Independents	Number of candidates	Seats won	Valid votes polled	Percentage votes per Average candidate	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	7	-	32,550	5.6	4,507
Bhartiya Kranti Dal	8	8	2,69,524	48.6	33,690
Communist Party of India	4	-	23,737	4.2	5,934
Indian National Congress	7	-	1,34,794	24.3	19,256
Mazdoor Parishad	1	-	371	0.1	371
Proutist Block	3	-	3,451	0.7	1,150
Republican Party of India	4	-	13,527	2.4	3,382
Samyukta Socialist	3	-	7,579	1.3	2,526
Swatantra	3	-	2,875	0.6	958
U. P. Kisan Mazdoor	5	-	35,317	6.3	7,063
Independents	14	-	31,893	5.7	2,278
Total	59	8	5,54,518	100.0	—

After the mid-term poll, the new Vidhan Sabha reassembled on February 26, 1969, and a coalition government was formed, but it had to relinquish office as a result of intra-party conflicts and defections. A short spell of President's rule again followed in the State from October 1, 1970, to October 18, 1970. The next ministry, formed by the Samyukta Vidhayak Dal. This ministry also did not last for more than five months.

In the wake of large scale defections the Congress (R) managed to muster absolute majority in the Assembly and formed the government in April, 1971.

But in June, 1973 the Congress (R) ministry resigned and the State was placed under Presidents' rule once again which was revoked in November, 1973 by the formation of ministry by the Congress (R).

Vidhan Parishad (Legislative Council)

The district at present forms part of the Meerut-cum-Muzaffarnagar Local Authorities, Meerut Graduates, and Meerut Teachers' constituencies for biennial elections to the Vidhan Parishad. At present two residents of the district are members of the Vidhan Parishad.

THE PARLIAMENT

Lok Sabha

For the general elections to the Lok Sabha held in 1952, the district was divided into two constituencies, the Saharanpur District (West)-cum-Muzaffarnagar District (North), a composite constituency, and the Muzaffarnagar (South) constituency. The first was a double-member constituency, having one seat reserved for the Scheduled Castes.

In the general elections of 1957 to the Lok Sabha the district comprised two constituencies—the Saharanpur and the Muzaffarnagar constituencies. The Saharanpur constituency, which was a joint constituency of the two districts (Muzaffarnagar and Saharanpur), was a double-member constituency with one reserved seat for the Scheduled Castes, while the other was a single-member constituency.

For the general elections of 1962, the district was divided into two single-member constituencies, namely, Muzaffarnagar and Kairana. The constituencies remained unchanged for the general election held in 1967.

The Lok Sabha constituted after the elections of 1967 was dissolved on account of the rift in the Congress party. On December 27, 1970, the President of India issued a proclamation and fresh polls were ordered. The mid-term parliamentary elections were completed in March 1971 and the new Lok Sabha was constituted in the same month. A notable feature of this election was the split of the Indian National Congress into two distinct parties, one led by Nijalingappa known as Congress (N), and the other led by Jagjiwan Ram named as Congress (J). These were later called Congress (O) and Congress (R) respectively.

The following statement shows the result of the general elections held in the district for the Lok Sabha in 1952, 1957, 1962, and 1967, and of the mid-term poll of 1971 :

Party/Independents	1952			1957			1962			1967			1971		
	Contestants	Seats won	Valid votes polled	Contestant	Seats won	Valid votes polled	Contestants	Seats won	Valid votes polled	Contestants	Seats won	Valid votes polled	Contestants	Seats won	Valid votes polled
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	2	-	66,741	2	-	1,02,647	2	-	42,073	2	-	44,119	1	-	29,439
Bhartiya Kranti Dal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2,42,424
Communist party of India	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	45,193	1	1	74,755	1	1	2,03,193
Communist party of India (Marxist)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	45,993	-	-	-
Indian National Congress	3	3	6,08,389	3	3	5,02,417	2	1	1,55,865	2	-	1,25,086	-	-	-
Indian National Congress (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1,82,276
Kisan Mazdoor Praja Muslim Majlis	1	-	5,259	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Praja Socialist	-	-	-	1	-	53,148	1	-	57,004	-	-	-	1	-	4,061
Proutist Block of India	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5,368
Ram Rajya Parishad	1	-	48,353	1	-	37,285	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Republican Party of India	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	26,652	-	-	-
Samyukta Socialist	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	83,613	1	-	8,352
Socialist Party of India	3	-	1,21,722	-	-	-	1	-	22,828	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swatantra	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	27,924	2	-	23,758	-	-	-
Independents	4	-	60,387	5	-	4,25,664	2	1	1,46,043	11	-	1,62,688	7	-	30,252
Total	14	3	9,10,851	12	3	11,21,161	11	2	4,96,930	22	2	5,86,644	15	2	6,85,365

Political Parties

Though all the national and regional political organisations have their units functioning in the district, yet the Indian National Congress, the Bhartiya Jan Sangh, the Socialist party of India, the Communist party of India, and the Bhartiya Kranti Dal (now incorporated in the Bhartiya Lok Dal) are parties having some significant following. They invariably set up candidates for successive elections to the Vidhan and Lok Sabhas. Their performance at the various polls has already been depicted. If success at the polls is any indicator of a political party's hold over the people, the results given earlier may be interpreted accordingly. The aims and objects of political organisations differ widely in precept and practice, but all of them have the common objective of serving the masses.

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

Local Publications

The publication of newspapers and periodicals in different languages was started in the district around 1923, but it received an impetus after Independence. The following chart gives some details about newspapers and periodicals published up to 1970 in the district :

Name of newspapers/ periodicals	Year of commencement	Periodicity	Copies in circulation
1	2	3	4
Hindi			
<i>Sewak</i>	1923	Weekly	1,800
<i>Zarurat</i>	1935	"	1,671
<i>Dehat</i>	1936	"	1,000
<i>Uttarakhand Times</i>	1945	"	2,000
<i>Nirali Duniya</i>	1950	"	1,950
<i>Naya Sansar</i>	1950	"	9,830
<i>Panch Sandesh</i>	1951	"	No Sale
<i>Naqara</i>	1960	"	850
<i>Muzaffarnagar Saptahik Vyapar Samachar</i>	1960	"	No Sale
<i>Dehat</i>	1962	Daily	5,461
<i>Adarsh Times</i>	1962	Weekly	No sale
<i>Adhyapak Sandesh</i>	1963	Monthly	1,960

[Continued.]

1	2	3	4
<i>Muzaffarnagar Times</i>	1963	Weekly	1,000
<i>Chaturvarg</i>	1963	"	500
<i>Muzaffarnagar Vyapar Patrika</i>	1965	Bi-weekly	100
<i>Vaniya Sandesh</i>	1965	"	No sale
<i>Dharam Putra</i>	1967	Weekly	6,350
<i>Hamara Janpatra</i>	1969	"	696
<i>Vishwa Jasoo</i>	1969	"	No sale
<i>Parush Ram</i>	1969	"	250
<i>Dharam Megha</i>	1970	"	1,000
<i>Chalta Chintan</i>	1970	"	500
<i>Bhartiya Sandesh</i>	1970	"	500
<i>Satya Bhash</i>	1971	"	500
<i>Doaba Times</i>	1972	"	500
<i>Amar Rashtra</i>	1972	"	250
<i>Uttam Bulletin</i>	N.A.	Monthly	500
Urdu			
<i>Ruhati Aalam</i>	1960	Monthly	500
<i>Khair Khah</i>	1968	"	457
<i>Nawa-e-Huq</i>	1969	Fortnightly	1,000
Bilingual			
<i>Vyapar Sandesh</i> (Hindi and Gujrati)	1955	Bi-weekly	1,000
<i>U. P. Registration Journal</i> (English and Hindi)	1960	Half-yearly	400
<i>Vishwa Karma Vikas</i> (English and Hindi)	1963	Monthly	No sale
<i>Varni Pravachen</i> (Hindi and English)	1968	"	700

'Sewak' is the oldest one published from Muzaffarnagar city, along with 'Dehat' and 'Zarurat', which were published in Urdu before Independence. All three switched over to Hindi after 1947. The educational institutions of the district bring out their own magazines which have their circulation within them.

Other Newspapers and Periodicals

Among the Popular English newspapers published outside the district, are *The Times of India*, *The Indian Express*, *The Hindustan Times*, *The Statesman*, *The Economic Times*, *The Pioneer*, and the *National Herald*; while *Blitz*, *The Illustrated Weekly of India*, *Sports and Pastime*, *Time*, *Caravan*, *Filmfare*, *Life*, *Reader's Digest*, *Picture Post*, *Careers and Courses*, *World's Sports*, *Femina*, etc., are the English periodicals that are published outside the district.

The Hindi newspapers published outside but commonly circulated among the people are *The Hindustan*, *The Nav Bharat Times*, the *Navjeevan*, and the *Swatantra Bharat*; while *Dharm-yug*, *Saptahik Hindustan*, *Sarita*, *Navneet*, *Niharika*, *Kadambini*, *Manohar Kahania*, *Nandan*, *Chandamama*, *Parag*, *Natraj*, *Madhuri*, *Urvashi*, *Sushma*, etc., are the periodicals that fall into the same category.

The Urdu periodicals popular in the district are *Tej*, *Qaumi Awaz*, *Blitz*, *Shama*, and *Biswin Sadi*. They too are published outside.

A number of free as well as priced publications brought out by the Central and State Governments, the diplomatic missions, various cultural, religious, spiritual, political, and economic organisations—both national and international—and by several agencies of the United Nations Organisation, are also received in the libraries and reading-rooms for public use.

VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

In the past, social needs were met by family, caste, community, and occupational groups who also nourished culture and provided social security to their members. With the advent of British rule and the western system of education in the country, the outlook of the people broadened and several social reforms and missionary institutions emerged, giving rise to many counter-religious and social organisations, besides the establishment of modern hospitals, and residential (technical and non-technical) educational institutions. The Dayanand Anglo-Vedic Inter College is one such voluntary organisation.

There are four voluntary institutions for Harijan welfare, namely, Mehtar Mazdoor Kanya Pathshala, Ravidas Kanya Pathshala, Dr Ambedkar Chhatravas, and Chaudhri Mulki Ram Pustakalaya.

Presently, the district has no orphanage except an abandoned and dilapidated building in Muzaffarnagar city, which was used as orphans' home in the past. Orphan boys from Hardwar visit Muzaffarnagar town once or twice a month and collect alms and donations.

The Mahila Sabha, a welfare organisation for women and children, was established in Muzaffarnagar city in 1934. It is situated in its own building in Nai Mandi, Muzaffarnagar, and runs sewing and embroidery classes, a nursery school, and a library. The Zila Mahila Hitkari Parishad, which is a non-official body, but gets aid from the government, was established in 1955. It is running a sewing and embroidery school for women in the district.

The district also has branches of the international Rotary and Lions Clubs. Generally, the well-to-do and educated persons such as advocates, doctors, businessmen, teachers, and high officials, are associated with their activities. These clubs have arranged Eye Relief Camps for the sufferers.

The Bharat Sewak Samaj, also a branch of the all India organisation of the same name, functions in the district to promote the spirit of self-help in the society. It has organised some *shram-dan* camps in the past and has been functioning for long. The district magistrate is its ex officio president, and the chief medical officer and members of his team are its other office-bearers. It renders useful service, particularly on the visitation of a calamity such as a flood, a fire or an epidemic. A sum of Rs 1,232.25 was raised during 1972 as donation by the society.



CHAPTER XIX

PLACES OF INTEREST*

Ailam (pargana Kandhla, tahsil Budhana)

Ailam lies in Lat. 29°17' N. and Long. 77°18' E. on the Shamli-Shahdra road, 48 km. south of the district headquarters, between the river Kirsani and the eastern Yamuna canal.

Tradition has it that the village was founded by one Mahipal Singh about 620 A. D. It formed the headquarters of one of the *khaps* under *khap* Baliyan.

The place falls in the Budhana development block and is included in the Kandhla police-station. It has an intermediate college, a senior Basic school, three junior Basic schools, a hospital, an Ayurvedic dispensary and a primary health centre a savings bank, and telegraphic facilities. The village is electrified and power is available for agricultural purposes. Drinking water is obtained from the wells and hand pumps. Both *pakka* and *kachcha* roads pass through the locality. There are temples and mosques here. The place has one Panchayat Udyog, manufacturing sanitary goods and small units of cane-crushers and handlooms. It is also the headquarters of a *nyaya* panchayat. The population of Ailam is 9,109 which is spread over an area of 865 ha.

Baghra (pargana Baghra, tahsil Muzaffarnagar)

The village, which lies in Lat. 29°28' N. and long. 77°35' E. and gives its name to the pargana, is also the headquarters of a block. It is about 11 km. west of Muzaffarnagar near the bifurcation of Muzaffarnagar-Kairana and Muzaffarnagar-Shamli roads. Buses plying on these routes have a halt here.

It is a place of some antiquity, and was according to local tradition held by Prithvi Raj, the great Chauhan ruler of the kingdom of Delhi in the twelfth century. The name of the village is said to have been derived from one raja Bagh, but nothing is known about this personage. It was formed as a *mahal* in the reign of Akbar.

The village has an intermediate college, a government normal school, two junior Basic schools, a primary health centre, a veterinary hospital, an artificial insemination centre, a seed store, and an inspection house of the canal department. A branch of the State Bank of India was opened here in 1970. There are small units of cane-crushers and a thriving market is held in this village every Wednesday. The place is included in the Titawi police-station. It has a population of 9,338 with an area of 1,799 ha.

*The figures relating to the population and area are based on census of 1971

A fair is held every year at this place on the occasion of Dasahra and attracts about 12,000 persons.

Barla (pargana Pur Chhappar, tahsil Muzaffarnagar)

Situated about 19 km. north-west of Muzaffarnagar by the side of Meerut-Dehra Dun highway, Barla lies in Lat. $29^{\circ} 37' N.$ and Long. $77^{\circ} 47' E.$ It is connected by roads with Gordhanpur, Bhukarheri, and Deoband. Buses plying on these routes halt here.

Raja Ram of Landhaura, a Gujar chief, held this village as a part of his estate before it came into the possession of the Saiyids.

The village has an intermediate college, a junior Basic school, and an inspection-house of the canal department. It is the headquarters of a *nyaya* panchayat and falls in the development block and the police-station of Purqazi. The bazar is held on Fridays here. The place has a population of 5,536 and covers an area of 913 ha.

An *urs* known as 'Baba Chand Ki Roshni' is held every year on the 25th and 26th of Ramadan in this village with an approximate attendance of 3,000 persons.

Basera (pargana Pur Chhappar, tahsil Muzaffarnagar)

Basera lies in Lat. $29^{\circ} 33' N.$ and long. $77^{\circ} 51' E.$ It is situated towards north-east from the city, at a distance of 27 km. on the metalled road from Bhukarheri to Deoband and about 10 km. south of Purqazi. It has a regular bus service from Muzaffarnagar.

The Ganga canal passes by this village in the east at a distance of about 3 km. Its distributary, named Basera *rajbaha* after the village, runs close to its west, its left branch flowing between the canal and the village. The village is thus well-provided with the means of irrigation and has consequently prospered.

The village has the remains of a ruined fortress, said to be built by the Saiyids about 400 years ago. It came into the possession of the Gujar Rani of Landhaura after the decline of the Saiyids, and is since known as Landhaura Wali Rani Ki Garhi.

It has an intermediate college, three junior Basic schools and one senior Basic school, a branch of the State Bank of India, a hospital, a veterinary hospital, an artificial insemination centre, a dharmshala, and the headquarters of the *nyaya* panchayat. It is included in the development block and the police-station of Purqazi. Weekly markets are held on Tuesdays here. It is electrified and power is available for agriculture. The village has a population of 8,560 and an area of 2,967 ha.

Bhukarheri (pargana Bhukarheri, tahsil Jansath)

Bhukarheri, which gives its name to the pargana, lies in Lat. $29^{\circ} 31' N.$ and Long. $77^{\circ} 56' E.$ on the metalled road from Bijnor to Deoband at a distance of 24 km. from the district head-

quarters. It is flanked on the east by the Bhukarheri distributary of the Ganga canal, being bounded in the west by another distributary of the same canal.

It is a place of some antiquity, having been the headquarters of a pargana in the days of Akbar. In the 18th century it was inhabited chiefly by the Chhatrauri branch of Saiyids (who rose to eminence after the fall of their Tihanpuri brethren), who were subsequently replaced by the Jats.

There is an old double-storyed structure, ascribed by the Hindus to one Baba Garib Das (a local saint), and by their Muslim brethren to Baba Garib Shah. It is used by the Hindus and Muslims as a common place of worship, and attracts large numbers of people on the full moon day in the month of Sravana, when a local fair takes place here.

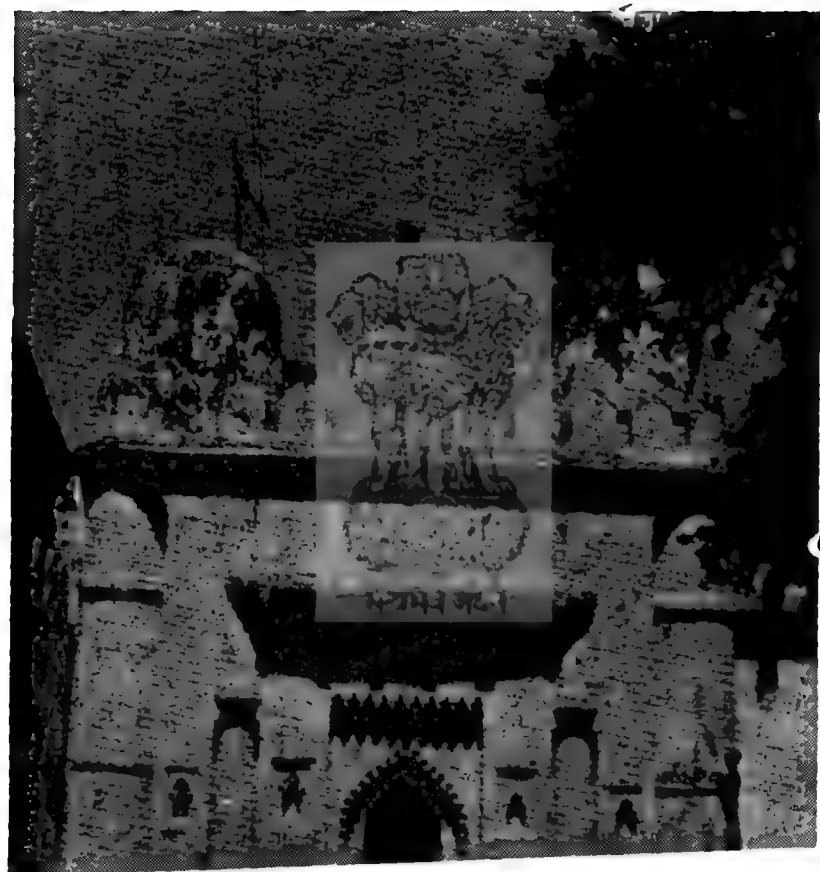
A weekly market is held here every Monday, the chief articles of trade being rice, wheat, and sugar. *Khandsari* sugar manufactured here enjoys a local fame and is renowned for its fine texture and quality. It has at present three junior Basic schools and an intermediate college. The place is electrified and power is available for agriculture. It falls in the Morna development block and is included in the Bhopa police-station. It is presently administered as a town area. The population of the place is 10,226 and it covers an area of 2.3 sq. km.

Budhana (pargana and tahsil Budhana)

Budhana, the headquarters of the tahsil and the development block of the same name lies in Lat. 29° 17' N. and Long. 77° 99' E. It stands on the right bank of the Hindan river, which also forms its northern boundary. To its east there is a low lying tract forming a portion of the Hindan *khadar*. It is 30 km. south of the district headquarters and 26 km. west of Khatauli, with which it is connected by a road. Another road runs west to Kandhla, crossing the Shamli-Meerut road 5 km. from this place.

In the reign of Akbar it was constituted as a *mahal*. It was a stronghold of Begam Samru of Meerut, who became a leading figure of the imperial court in the nineties of the eighteenth century. During the national upheaval of 1857 the revolutionaries were able to achieve immediate successes under Khairati Khan of Parsauli, a leader of the freedom-fighters. The town and the fort of Budhana were seized and garrisoned by him. The terror-stricken magistrate in charge, R. M. Edward, sought for help from Lt Col Davis, whose troops were passing through the district, but the latter expressed his inability to comply with the request as he had been ordered to move to Meerut at once. After a bitter fighting, the town was retrieved by the British in September, 1857.

A part of this place has been constituted into a town area which has a population of 10,522 persons and an area of 3 sq. km. The village, including the town area, possesses a primary health centre which was opened as a dispensary in 1900, a maternity and child welfare centre, a primary health centre, a family planning centre, an artificial insemination centre, a veterinary hospital, a





Begum Samru's stronghold, Budhana

dharmsala, a police-station, and an inspection house. A branch of the Punjab National Bank was opened here in 1970. It has an intermediate college and four junior Basic and one senior Basic schools. The weekly market is held on every Saturday. The place is electrified.

Charthawal (pargana Charthawal, tahsil Muzaffarnagar)

Charthawal, the headquarters of the pargana as well as of a development block of the same name, lies in Lat. $29^{\circ} 33' N.$ and Long. $77^{\circ} 36' E.$ The place is on the north-west of Muzaffarnagar at a distance of 19 km. from it, and is connected with it by a metalled road leading to Thana Bhawan. The Deoband branch of the Ganga canal on the west, and a tributary of the Kali Nadi (west) in the east, give a picturesque appearance as well as ample irrigation facilities to this place.

There are two ancient temples here, one dating back to Jahan-gir's time, and the other about 500 years old. The place was the headquarters of the revenue agent, *amil*. A part of it, having a population of 11,638 and an area of 2.2 sq. km. is being administered as town area. There is an intermediate college, besides six junior Basic schools, two senior Basic schools, a branch of the Central Bank of India, a primary health centre, a maternity and child welfare centre, a family planning centre, a veterinary hospital, an artificial insemination centre, and a dharmsala here. Besides the regular big bazar, weekly market is held on Fridays. The place is electrified and power is available for agriculture.

Three fairs are held here every year; two of which known as the Ghat and Devi fairs, fall in the month of Chaitra, and the third called the fair of Chhariyan falls in the month of Bhadra. The last one is dedicated to saint Goga Pir, who is honoured by both the Hindus and Muslims. Each fair is attended by about 5,000 persons.

Chhapar (pargana Pur Chhapar, tahsil Muzaffarnagar)

The village, which gives its name to the pargana, lies in Lat. $29^{\circ} 34' N.$ and Long. $77^{\circ} 46' E.$ It is situated 13 km. to the north-east of Muzaffarnagar on the metalled road from Muzaffarnagar to Roorkee. The Barla *rajbaha* of the Ganga canal passes through the village, while at a short distance towards the east flows the main distributary of the Ganga canal.

The village was known as Chhapar Khudda *mahal* in the days of Akbar. The name Pur Chhapar dates from the days of Qazi Nizami, a Saiyid of Jansath, who sold the village to Lakshman Das, an agent of Raja Ram Dayal of Landhaura. Lakshman Das is associated with a fortress that has been found in this village.

There is an intermediate college, a junior Basic school besides a Unani dispensary, a maternity and child welfare centre, and a veterinary hospital here. It is the headquarters of a *nyaya*

panchayat. A weekly market assembles every Friday in the village. It is the first bus stop of the Muzaffarnagar-Roorkee roadways bus service and motor taxis are available up to it. The place is electrified and power is available for agriculture.

Gangeru (pargana and tahsil Budhana)

Gangeru, a large village, lies in Lat. $29^{\circ} 18' N.$ and Long. $77^{\circ} 28' E.$ at a distance of about 5 km. west of Kandhla with which it is connected by a metalled road. It stands on the high ground between the Khandraus and Kandhla distributaries of the eastern Yamuna canal.

The village has a post-office with telephonic facilities. There are four junior Basic and one senior Basic schools. The important cottage industry of this place is of hand-spun and hand-woven woollen blankets. It is also the headquarters of a *nyaya* panchayat circle and is included in the development block and the police-station of Kandhla. The village, with a population of 11,792, covers an area of 190 ha.

Jalalabad (pargana Thana Bhawan, tahsil Muzaffarnagar)

Jalalabad, twenty-one km. from Shamli, lies in Lat. $29^{\circ} 37' N.$ and Long. $77^{\circ} 26' E.$ on the road leading from Shamli to Saharanpur at a distance of 21 km. from Shamli.

It is said to derive its name from one Jalal Khan, a Pathan, during the reign of emperor Aurangzeb (1658-1707 A. D.). To the south of the town at a distance of 1.5 km. stand the ruins of a fort constructed by Najib Khan, the Rohilla chieftain, in the eighteenth century. The inner compound of this building contains the remains of an old mosque constructed during the days of Zabita Khan, the son of Najib, whose reign witnessed the ravages of the Marathas more than once, thus causing it to become deserted. It was ordered to be restored to its former position by General Person, the French Commander of Daulat Rao Sindhia's forces in 1803, but the project had to be dropped as the British occupation of the doab was already complete by this time.

It falls in the Thana Bhawan police-station. A part of the place with a population of 10,923 persons and an area of 0.6 sq. km. is being administered as a town area. Jalalabad possesses five junior Basic, two senior Basic and a higher secondary schools, besides a hospital and a maternity and child welfare centre. A weekly cattle fair is held here every Sunday and a local market every Monday.

Jansath (pargana Jauli, tahsil Jansath)

Jansath, the headquarters of the development block and the tahsil of the same name, lies in Lat. $29^{\circ} 20' N.$ and Long. $77^{\circ} 51' E.$ to the south of the road from Muzaffarnagar to Miranpur, at

a distance of 22 km. from the district headquarters. It is situated on a low site, having sandy soil which is occasionally mixed with clay. The town is girdled by the distributaries of the Anupshahr branch of the main Ganga canal which run around the circumference of the town. The southern portion, known as Garhi is surrounded by the remains of a brick wall.

According to local legends, the Pandava brothers are said to have traversed this area in the course of their wanderings during exile (*agyatvasa*). An old temple, dedicated to Gyaneshwara, makes Jansath a principal site for the local Hindu population who congregate here on various festivals throughout the year.

The place is initially said to have been inhabited by the Jats and the Brahmanas, but with the growing influence of the Saiyids in this area, it came to be assigned as a revenue division or *tappa* to them during the reign of emperor Farukh Siyar (1712-1719 A.D.). It was during his reign that Jansath was formed out of the Akbari pargana of Jauli. The Saiyids of Jansath belong to the Tihanpuri branch who rose to prominence during the reigns of Shah-jahan and Aurangzeb. Many of them attained to high positions under the Mughal emperors the apex being reached under Abdulla Khan and Husain Ali Khan, the two Saiyid brothers, known as the king-makers of India in the 18th century. Subsequent to the fall of the Saiyids, Jansath was sacked by the Mughal forces. However, in the ensuing struggle, the Saiyids won back many of their estates from the Marathas and regained their status in this pargana at the British occupation of the doab in 1803. It was the venue of many an outbreak during the freedom struggle of 1857, an important event of this period being the common uprising of the Indian troops of the fourth irregular cavalry of the British army and of the local populace against the British raj.

A traditional art which seems to have flourished here from early times was the *zastai* (dyeing in lead colour) and dyeing in bottle-green colour. Till the early years of the present century, the cloth dyed at Jansath was famous for its quality. However, a growing inadequacy of material and lack of encouragement to the traditional art have resulted in its decline.

Administered at present as a town area, it has a population of 8,202 persons and an area of 0.3 sq. km. The place has two hospitals, a family planning centre, two higher secondary institutions, a senior Basic school, and three junior Basic schools. The place has a branch each of the Allahabad Bank, the State Bank of India, and the District Co-operative Bank. It is also the site of a number of fairs held annually. The chief fair held here is the Nasrullah fair which runs from the second to the third Friday in Jyaishta attended by an average of 3,000 persons. Other fair are the Gaureshwari Mela, held on Chaitra *sukla* 14, and the fair of 'Zahir Diwan', held in memory of a popular saint in the last week of Bhadra.

Jaula (pargana and tahsil Budhana)

Jaula, a large village, lies in Lat. $29^{\circ} 17' N.$ and Long. $77^{\circ} 25' E.$ west of Budhana at a distance of 6 km. on the road joining Budhana with Kandhla.

The inhabitants of the village took a leading part in the freedom struggle of 1857. The success of Khairati Khan, a freedom fighter, against the British troops at Parsauli, raised the morale of the residents of this village. They allied themselves with Khairati Khan and attacked a British force marching to Budhana on September 14, 1857, but were repelled with great loss. The village was stormed and its residents were subjected to inhuman torture and their lands were confiscated.

The village possesses two junior and two senior Basic schools and a maternity and child welfare centre. The place is electrified and power is available for agriculture. It falls in the development block and police-station of Budhana and is the headquarters of a *nyaya* panchayat. It has a population of 9,050 and covers a total area of 135 ha.

Jhinjhana (pargana Jhinjhana, tahsil Kairana)

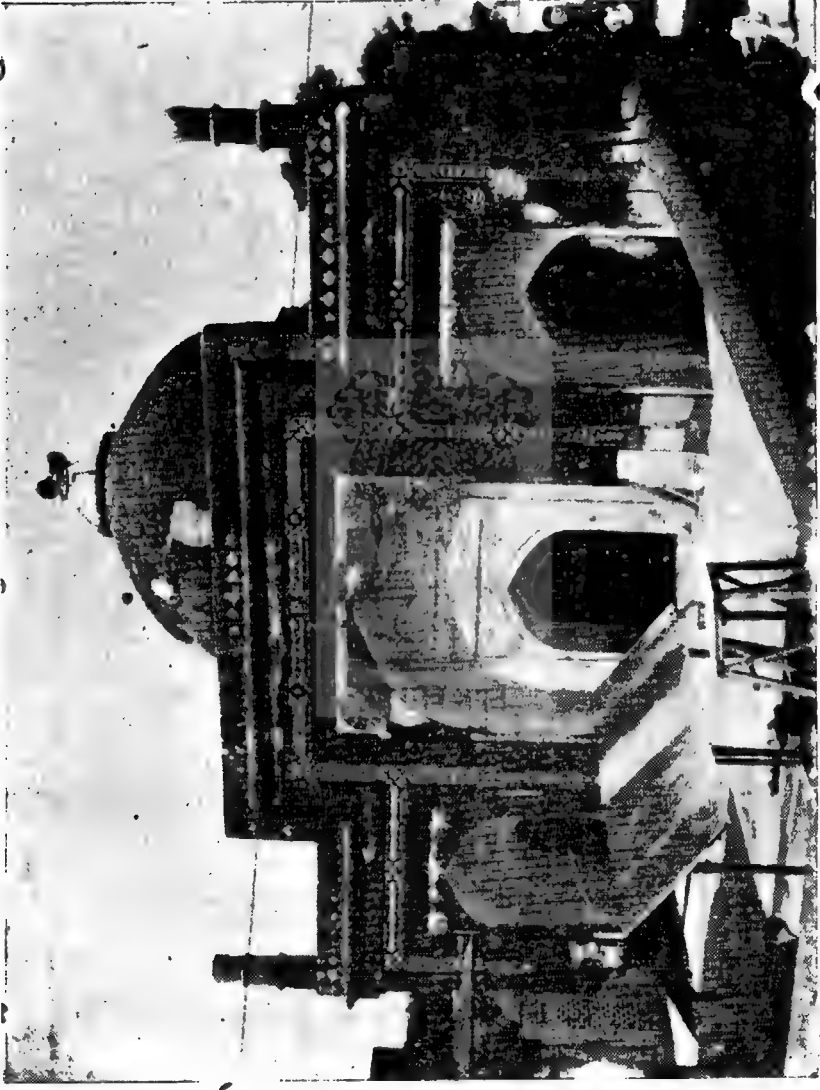
Jhinjhana, the headquarters of pargana of the same name, lies in Lat. $29^{\circ} 31' N.$ and Long. $77^{\circ} 14' E.$ at a distance of approximately 48 km. from the district headquarters and 17 km. from Shamli. It was the headquarters of a pargana even in the days of Akbar, and was the home of a family of Sheikhs who had resided here from early times.

The place has a number of historical monuments, some of them dating back to the beginning of the 10th century. Among these may be mentioned a *dargah* (tomb) dedicated to Imam Sahib, a local Muslim saint, believed to date back to 901 A.D. A mosque and a tomb ascribed to Shah Abdul Razzaq and his four sons, built during the reign of Jahangir in 1623 A.D., are other structures of historical interest. The domes of the mosque and the tomb are decorated with blue coloured flowers of excellent workmanship. However, these have been subjected to the ravages of time.

The village falls within the development block of Une. A major part of the place, with a population of 7,820 persons and an area of .04 sq. km. is now administered as a town area and was electrified in 1963. There is a maternity and child welfare centre, two junior Basic schools, and two higher secondary institutions here. A weekly market is held on Saturdays with an average attendance of 1,500 people, the main item of business being shoes made locally. A fair is held on Vaisakha Sukla 8 in honour of Devi and is attended by about 1,000 persons.

Kairana (pargana and tahsil Kairana)

The town, which is the headquarters of the tahsil of the same name, lies in Lat. $27^{\circ} 24' N.$ and Long. $77^{\circ} 12' E.$ on the metalled



Mosque of Shahi Abdul Razzaq and his four sons, Jhinhana

road from Muzaffarnagar to Panipat. It is located at a distance of 49 km. from the district headquarters on the *khadir* or low-land adjoining the Yamuna.

The importance of the place dates back to the reign of emperor Shahjahan who bestowed the estate of Kairana on his physician, Muqarrab Khan. Muqarrab Khan is said to have erected many buildings and laid out a garden here, the remains of the latter being traceable to this day in the north-east of the town. He is also said to have procured excellent fruit trees from all parts of India, the mangoes of Kairana being renowned for their quality.

Administered as a municipal board at present Kairana has a population of 32,353 and covers an area of 3.1 sq. km. It possesses two hospitals, a primary health centre, a family planning centre, in addition to three higher secondary schools, ten junior Basic schools, a cinema house and two public libraries. It also possesses branches of the State Bank of India, the District Co-operative Bank and the Lakshmi Commercial Bank.

Among old buildings and monuments dating back to the mediaeval period, may be mentioned the *baradari* constructed by the aforesaid Muqarrab Khan which was repaired in the first few years of this century. The oldest building in the town is a mosque in Pirzadan *mohalla*, built by emperor Islam Shah in 958 Hijri. Other buildings of historical importance and antiquity include the Afghan mosque built by Shahjahan in 1062 Hijri, the mosque of Maraf Pir on the Shamli road built by Aurangzeb in 1077 Hijri, the Darbar Kalan mosque built in 1051 Hijri by Sahiba Sultan, the mother of Sheikh Muhammad Fazal, and the mosque in Khel *mohalla* which dates back to 1066 Hijri. The poet Sadullah, a native of this place, was adopted by Muqarrab Khan and attained eminence in the academic field.

A large gathering of Muslims is held here during Jamada-sani (or the sixth lunar month) in honour of Bu Ali, a saint locally known as Khwaja Chishti, besides which small gathering of Hindus take place in the months of Chaitra and Bhadra.

Three important commodities manufactured at this place are handloom fabrics, rugs and knives of sandal.

Kakrauli (pargana Bhukarheri, tahsil Jansath)

A large village lies in Lat. 29° 24' N. and Long. 77° 55' E. at a distance of 11 km. to the north-west of Jansath. To its west runs the left main distributary of the Ganga canal, the latter being crossed about 3 km. to the north by the road from Muzaffarnagar to Jauli and Bijnor. It has several large water tanks in its vicinity, the main ones being the Dindihar and the Mahiyala tanks.

The place has some claims to antiquity, and was according to local traditions, largely inhabited by a branch of the Jats prior to Mughal advent (in 1526), the Saiyids constituting the land-

holders' class. The former (i.e. the Jats), are said to have shifted to Bharatpur (in Rajasthan) during the reign of emperor Muhammad Shah 'Rangeela' (1719—1748), subsequent to which it was rehabilitated by the aforesaid Saiyids.

The village is said to have possessed an old tank known as Haur-kund, which was levelled in the year 1857, and a building known as Garhi (or fort) of Ishaq, which is now inhabited by the Muslims of the village. A bi-weekly market held on Mondays and Thursdays, witnesses a fair trade in grain. There are a number of educational institutions including a higher secondary, a senior Basic and three junior Basic schools and a dispensary here. The place is electrified and power is available for agriculture. It falls in the Morna development block and has a population 6,001 and an area of 816 ha.

Kandhla (pargana Kandhla, tahsil Budhana)

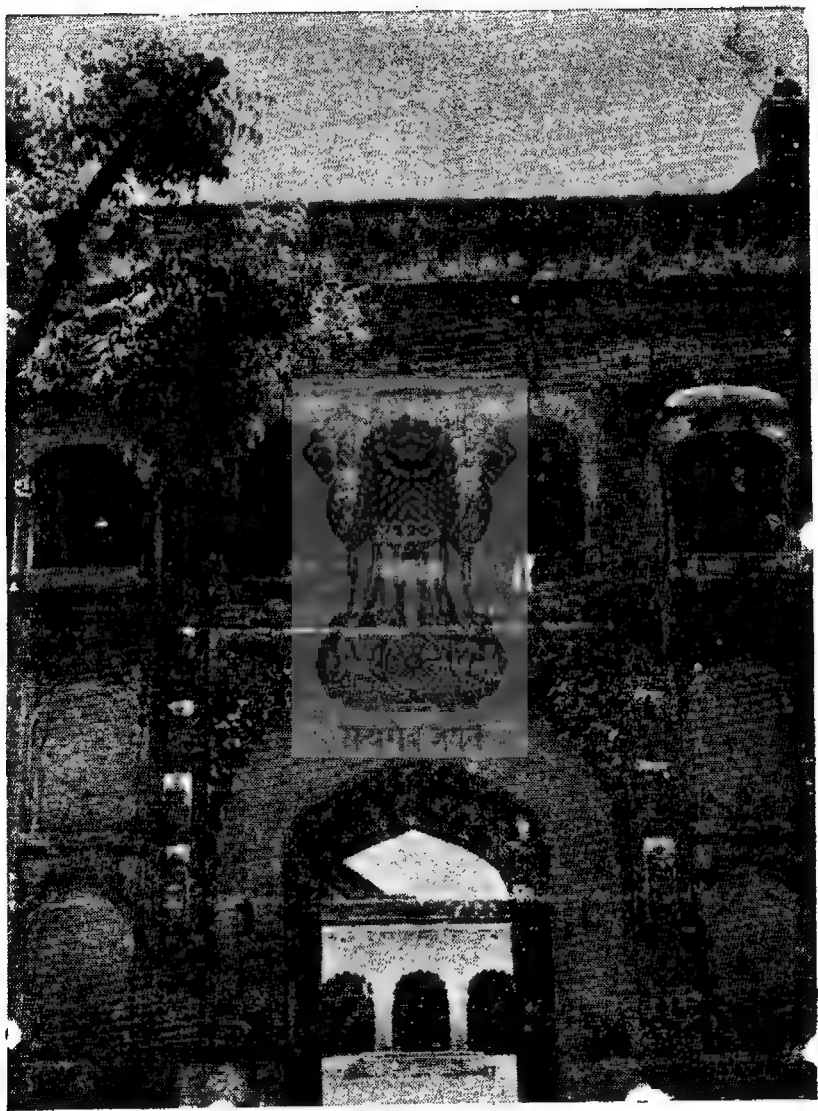
Kandhla, the headquarters of the pargana of the same name lies in Lat. 29°41' N. and Long. 77°81' E. close to the west of the eastern Yamuna canal at a distance of about 21 km. west of Budhana and of about 47 km. south-west of Muzaffarnagar. Along the eastern side of the canal a metalled road runs, linking Saharanpur and Baghpat in district Meerut. Another metalled road, which passes through the town connects it with Budhana and Kairana. The northern and western side of the town are embellished with orchards.

During the reign of Akbar it was constituted into a *mahal* in the sirkar of Delhi. The people of this place responded to the call of their leaders during the non-cooperation movement and liberally donated ornaments and money in support of the national cause. The annual session of the Khilafat conference was held in this town on October 6, 1922, in which it was resolved to non-cooperate completely with the British government and to adhere strictly to the use of Swadeshi goods.

The town is electrified and is administered as a municipality. The population of the place is 20,061 and it covers an area of 5.9 sq. km. It has a water-works which supplies potable water to the residents.

There are three intermediate colleges, a number of junior and senior Basic schools and two government normal schools here. The town has an allopathic dispensary, a primary health centre, a veterinary hospital and an artificial insemination centre. It also possesses branches of the State Bank of India and the United Commercial Bank of India, an inspection-house maintained by the irrigation department, a dharmshala and a cinema-house.

The town having a number of orchards around, the people are engaged in the trade of fruit products. It has a number of saw mills, an ice, and an ice candy factory. There is a shoe stacks factory as well. The place is famous as a jaggery market. The weekly bazar is held on Saturdays.



Fort (Garhi) of Ishaq, Kakrauli

There is an ancient tank called Suraj Kund where people come to bathe on religious occasions. There is also an old Jain temple here. The famous tomb of saint Maqduum Shah, built in 1706 A.D., still stands and people offer prayers here. Centrally located is the old Jama mosque. The annual Ramlila fair, held on Dasahra in Asvina, has a congregation of about 2,000 persons.

Khatauli (pargana Khatauli, tahsil Jansath)

The place lies in Lat. 29°42' N. and Long. 77°75' E. It also gives its name to a pargana and traces its origin as such (i.e. a pargana), to Akbar's times though the town is of a comparatively later origin. It is first said to have come into notice during the Bengal famine of 1875, when all the surplus grain in the district was exported from this station.

Situated at the crossing of the Muzaffarnagar-Meerut and Budhana-Miranpur roads, at a distance of 22 km. from the district headquarters, Khatauli is at present a town of considerable importance. The main Ganga canal flows to the west of the town and is crossed by the railway and the main road, about 1 km. to the north, and by the Budhana road about 3 km. to the south-west. The Northern Railway runs parallel with the main road, and has a station at a short distance east of the town. There is a bus station also here.

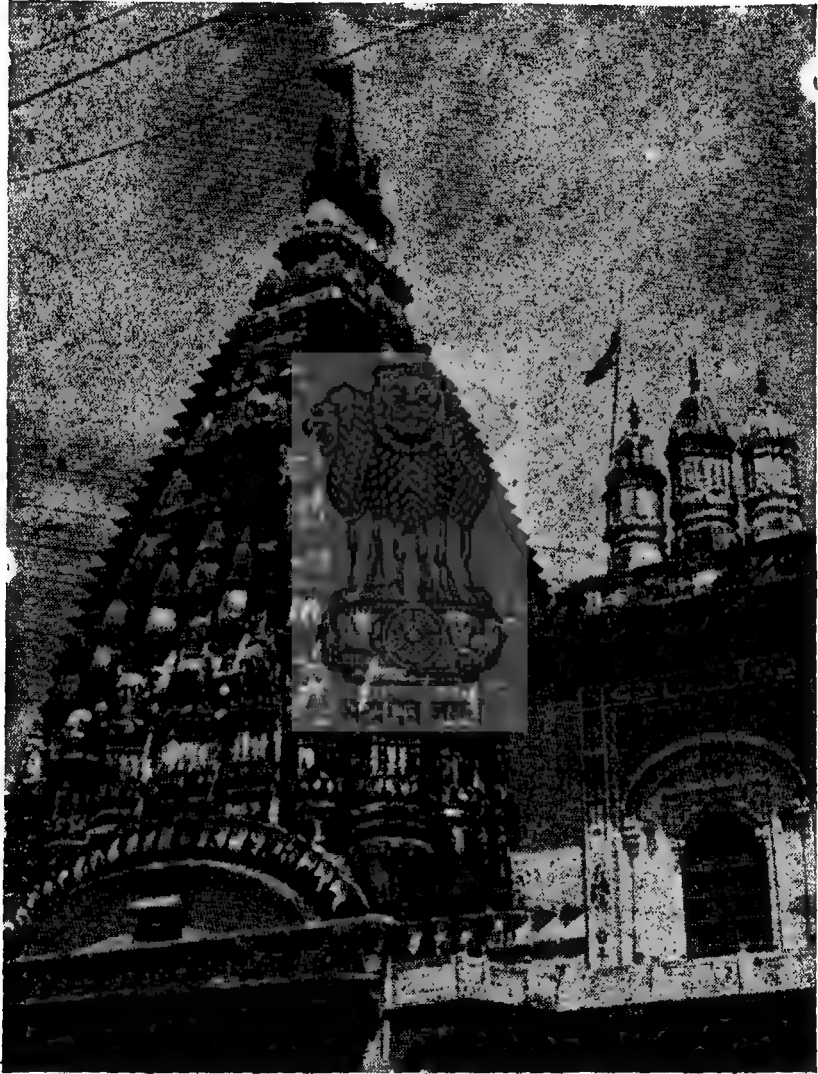
It is an electrified town, having a population of 24,495 and an area of 3.7 sq. km. It is administered as a municipal board and is divided into 8 wards. It has one degree college, four higher secondary schools, and three senior Basic and fifteen junior Basic institutions. The town also possesses a waterworks and two hospitals, a nursing home, two cinema-houses. It constitutes one of the important grain *mandi* (market) of the district, the wide extent of agriculture having encouraged the manufacture of tractor pulleys and other agricultural implements in recent times. There is a sugar mill also.

An old *sarai* (inn), dating back to the time of emperor Shah-jahan (1627—1656), with a Persian inscription over the gateway, testifies to the antiquity of the place; yet another building of the same period being a mosque located in the *mohalla* Sarafan. Among Hindu temples of interest in the town may be mentioned four large Jain temples dating back to the last century. A Jain fair, known as the Uchhao Sarangian, is usually held here in the month of Chaitra, the date depending on varying circumstances. Yet another fair held here is that of Zahir Diwan (a local saint) held during Bhadra *krishna paksha*, attracting large numbers of people from the neighbourhood.

Khatauli is a fast-developing town and is growing in importance every day.

Miranpur (pargana Bhuma Sambalhera, tahsil Jansath)

Miranpur lies in Lat. 29°33' N. and Long. 77°33' E. at the junction of the two metalled roads leading from Muzaffarnagar



Jain Temple, Kandhla

to Mawana and from Khatauli to Bijnor, this town is located at a distance of 33 km. from the district headquarters and 11 km. from the tahsil headquarters. The Churiala distributary of the Anupshahr canal flows close to the western portion of the town. It was a fairly large grain market, especially, for the sale of rice, sugar, and salt prior to the introduction of the railway line which diverted its trade to Khatauli and Muzaffarnagar.

The town is believed to have been bestowed on the Chhatrauri branch of the Saiyids during the reign of Akbar. It was the scene of hectic activity during 1857 when it was held by Palmer. A group of freedom-fighters from Bijnor stormed the town on 4th February, 1858, burning down the police-station and killing three men. The attackers were compelled to withdraw when the British reinforced their beleaguered force from Jauli (in tahsil Jansath). The village falls in the Morna development block. Presently administered as a town area Miranpur, it has a population of 12,962 and covers an area of 0.49 sq. km. It is electrified and possesses two higher secondary schools, a senior Basic, and three junior Basic schools. Blankets and pottery of a coarse blue shade are items of local manufacture and enjoy a district-wide reputation.

Morna (pargana Bhukarheri, tahsil Jansath)

Morna, the headquarters of the development block of the same name lies in 29°28' N. and Long. 77°56' E. on the south side of the road from Muzaffarnagar to Bijnor situated at 18 km. from the tahsil headquarters. It lies between the left main distributary and the Belra left feeder of the Ganga canal. The place was a seat of the Chatrauri branch of the Saiyids since the days of Akbar. It continued to be the principal town of the pargana till the mid-eighteenth century, but its proximity to the Pathan fortress at Shukartal proved fatal to its own existence. The Marathas used it as their headquarters during their incursions against the Pathans in 1759 and 1772 and it was reduced to an insignificant position. It was again placed on the district map after Independence, when it was made the headquarters of a development block.

The village has two junior Basic schools and a higher secondary school. It is electrified and possesses a maternity and child welfare centre in addition to a family planning centre. The principal crops grown here are wheat and rice, the principal sources of irrigation being tube-wells and canals. A weekly market is held here every Friday. The population of the place is 3,775 and the total area is 471 ha.

A number of buildings tracing their origin to the Saiyids are to be found here even today though in a dilapidated state. Important among these is a mosque ascribed to one Bidi Jhabbu,

the wife of Nawab Husain Khan, who lived during the reign of emperor Muhammad Shah.

Muzaffarnagar (pargana and tahsil Muzaffarnagar)

Muzaffarnagar, the headquarters of the district and the tahsil, lies in Lat. 29°28' N. and Long. 77°41' E. near the left bank of the river Kali. It is connected by metalled roads with Saharanpur in the north, Bijnor in the east, Meerut in the south, and with Panipat in Haryana State in the west. Other roads radiate from it, to Kairana on the west, Budhana on the south-west, and Jansath on the south-east. The Delhi-Rajpur-Mussoorie road passes through the middle of the town. Muzaffarnagar railway station lies on the Saharanpur-Delhi section of the Northern Railway.

Muzaffarnagar stands on the site of an old town known as Sarwat in the days of Akbar. Along with other parts of the district Sarwat was given as a jagir to Muzaffar Khan, a Barha Saiyid, by Shahjahan. Muzaffar Khan laid the foundation of a new town on the site of the old one, which was completed by his son Abdul Mansur who named it after his father. Before the advent of the British in 1803, it was a part of the doab under the sway of Daulat Rao Sindhia, though the payment of the *chauth* (revenue) assessed from this town by the Marathas was not always very punctual. In 1826, Muzaffarnagar was converted into a regular district with the town as its headquarters. In the freedom struggle of 1857, the people of this town also fell in line with the rest of the country. The news of the outbreak of a violent upheaval in the neighbouring district of Meerut on May 10, 1857, caused an uprising here as well. The collector, Bedford, out of panic, closed down all the public offices giving an impression that the British rule had ceased to function in the town. The revolutionaries set fire to the officers' bungalows and other government property and freed their comrades from the prison. A number of the British were killed and others fled.

In 1872 the town was made a municipality. At the beginning of twentieth century Muzaffarnagar again responded to the call of the leaders to join the national movement against the British rule. The Khilafat conference held at Kandhla on October 6, 1922, resulted in the establishment of a Khilafat committee in the town. The first sitting of the third Delhi Congress held in the city on October 27, 1922, resolved that the public should non-cooperate with the government of the day. Both men and women of this place took an active part in the non-cooperation movement which was widespread. They also participated in the Quit India Movement of 1942, and bravely faced the consequent repressive measures imposed by the British government.

After Independence, in 1947, the town expanded in all directions. It is still administered as a municipality. The biggest temple of the town is Bohran Ka Mandir. There are two mosques and two churches here. The exhibits of archaeological importance discovered in the district are lodged in the museum at Muzaffarnagar.

Muzaffarnagar plays an important role in the industrial field. New Mandi, which was established in 1918 by the chambers of commerce, U. P., is the greatest trading centres of the town, and a famous market for *gur* and sugar. It is also an important centre for wheat trade. The manufacture of blankets is a flourishing cottage industry of the town. It has a unit engaged in the manufacture of condensed milk, five ferrous rerolling mills, and some units engaged in the manufacture of steel furniture and centrifugal pumps. There are four markets here which close on Tuesdays in the city and Sundays in New Mandi. In addition to these a *paith* is held on Fridays in the city and on Tuesdays in New Mandi. The population of the place is 1,14,783 and it covers an area of 12.04 sq. km.

The educational institutions here include four degree colleges and thirteen higher secondary schools. It has provision for vocational training through a polytechnic. There are two public libraries and three hospitals in the district, the women's, and the police, and T. B. clinic, two nursing homes, and a primary health centre, in addition to the Nehru Eye Hospital. It also possesses a veterinary hospital and an artificial insemination centre. The Allahabad Bank, the Central Bank of India, the Punjab National Bank, and the State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur each has a branch in the district, while the Oriental Bank of Commerce, Ltd., and State Bank of India have two branches each. The town has four dharmshalas and two inspection houses, maintained by the canal department and the public works department respectively. The Zila Parishad has also a dak bungalow. It has four hotels and five cinema-houses. It was electrified in 1930.

Purqazi (pargana Pur Chhappar, tahsil Muzaffarnagar)

Pur or Purqazi lies in Lat. 29°39' N. and Long. 77°51' E. in the north of pargana Pur Chhappar, 25 km. north-west of Muzaffarnagar on the Muzaffarnagar-Roorkee road. Baserah distributary of the Ganga canal flows between the canal and the town. It is surrounded by a number of fine groves which give a picturesque appearance to it.

Tradition has it that Purqazi derives its name from Qazi Nizam, a Saiyid of Jansath, who lived in the reign of Farrukh Siyar. Afterwards it came into the possession of Raja Ram Dayal of Landhaura. The village has two big mosques one of which is said to have been built prior to and the other during the reign of Shahjahan.

A part of this place is being administered as a town area, the population of which is 10,485 and it covers an area of 18 sq. km. It is electrified and possesses a senior Basic school, a primary health centre, a veterinary hospital, a branch of the Punjab National Bank, and a dharmshala. The place is famous for the manufacture of hand-spun and hand-woven woollen blankets. It has a permanent bazar and Tuesdays and Saturdays are the bi-weekly market days.

Shahpur (pargana Shikarpur, tahsil Budhana)

Shahpur, the headquarters of the development block of the same name lies in Lat. 29°22' N. and Long. 77°33' E. It is situated at a distance of 9 km. from Budhana, on the Budhana-Muzaffarnagar road passing by the side of this village.

Part of the village has been constituted into a town area which had a population of 6,435 and an area of .2 sq. km. The village, including the town which is electrified, has an intermediate college, and three junior Basic schools, a primary health centre, a branch of the Central Bank of India and a police-station. Brassware and woollen blankets which enjoy a local fame are manufactured here as cottage industry. A weekly market is held here on Saturdays.

Shamli (pargana Shamli, tahsil Kairana)

Forming the headquarters of the development block and pargana Shamli lies in Lat. 29°27' N. and Long. 77°19' E. It is located at a distance of 11 km. from the tahsil headquarters and of 38 km. from the district headquarters, lying on the metalled road from Muzaffarnagar to Kairana. It is bounded on the east by the Yamuna canal which flows at a distance of 1.5 km. on this side.

The original name of the town is said to have been Muhammadpur Zanardan and it formed a portion of the jagir granted by emperor Jahangir to his physician hakim Muqarrab Khan. The estate was resumed in the reign of emperor Bahadur Shah, the town being thenceforth known as Shamli or Shyamli, after one Shyam, a follower of the hakim who is said to have built a bazar here. It served as the headquarters of a Maratha commander, who was dismissed in 1794 on charges of being in league with the Sikhs. A force under George Thomas was sent against him by Lakwa Dada, the Maratha governor of this area at that time, the insurgents being driven back into the town after a fierce battle. The place was then stormed by the pursuing force the same day. At the outset of the British occupation of the doab in 1803, the people of this place offered stout resistance of the British forces under Colonel, Burn. It was the headquarters of tahsil prior to 1857, when it was subjected to a strong onslaught by the freedom-fighters from Thana Bhawan, considerable damage being inflicted on the British troops and property located here. The tahsil headquarters were shifted from Shamli to Kairana subsequently.

Presently administered as a municipal board, the town is divided into six wards which have forty-six *mohallas*. It has a population of 36,959 and an area of 3.7 sq. km. It has two hospitals, a family planning centre two degree colleges, five higher secondary schools, three senior Basic schools and twenty-six junior Basic schools, besides two cinema-houses. It also possesses branches of the Central Bank of India, the Punjab National Bank, the State Bank of India and the District Co-operative Bank.

The town is served with electricity and potable water-supply. It has two public libraries. The three important commodities manufactured here are agricultural implements, sugar, and carts.

Shikarpur (pargana Shikarpur, tahsil Budhana)

The village, the centre of the pargana, lies in Lat. 29°22' N. and Long. 77°30' E. at a distance of 10 km. north of Budhana on the right bank of the Hindan river, and is connected by roads with Budhana in the south, Shahpur in the east, and Sisauli in the north.

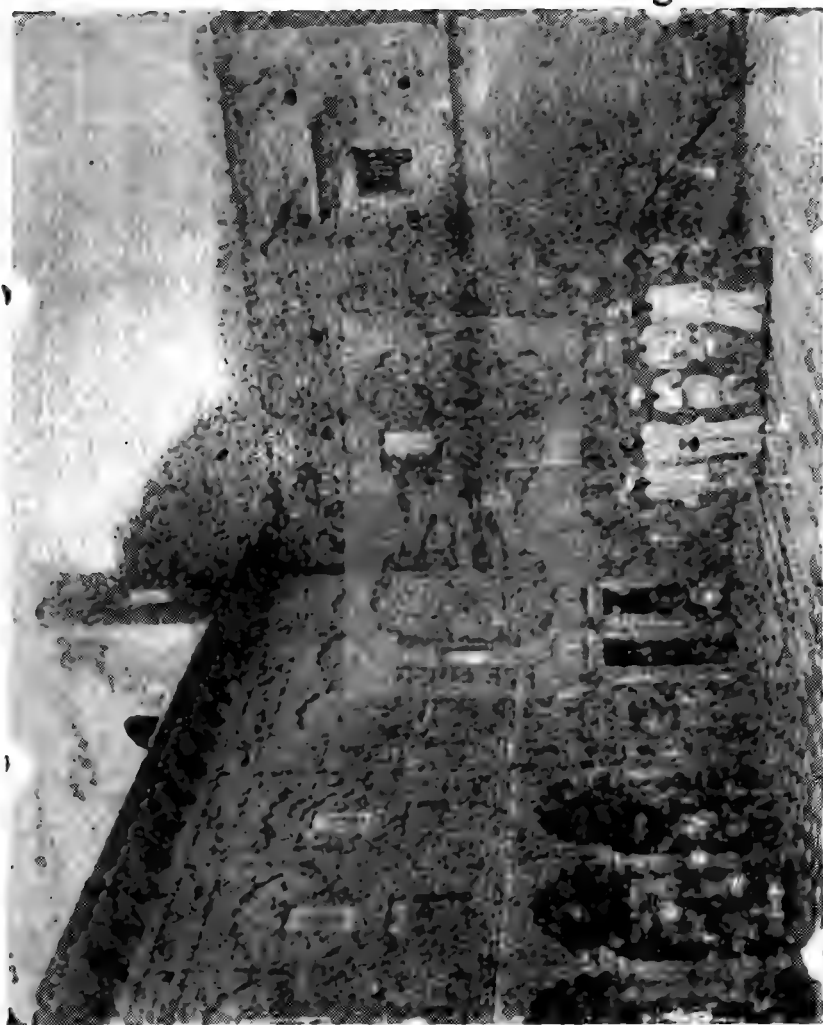
The village is situated in the *khap* Baliyan area. In 1903, a meeting of the *sarv khap* council was held in the village to discuss and adopt measures for protecting the country from the grave unrest and famine caused by the invasion of Timur. It is still a seat of Jat Chaudhuri. The village falls in the Budhana development block and the police-station.

It has a junior Basic school. It is electrified and power is available for agriculture. The village, with a population of 1,804 covers an area of 1,003 ha.

Shoron (pargana Shikarpur, tahsil Budhana)

Shoron, the headquarters of the development block of the same name lies in Lat. 29°20' N. and Long. 77°35' E. It is situated, in the east of pargana Shikarpur at a distance of 6 km. north-east of Budhana, the tahsil headquarters. It is 3 km. on the right side of the road connecting Budhana with Muzaffarnagar. In 1305, it was wrested from the Muslims by Ram Rao Rana, a leader of the *khap* Baliyan army. Before the advent of the Mughals, the Jats consolidated their conquests and Shoron became the military stronghold of the *khap militia* and the seat of the secretary of the Baliyan *khap*. The office of the *khap*-secretary is hereditary and is, locally called vizir. The vizir administered the *khap* area through a council. The main functions of the council were to defend the *sarv khap* area and to protect their religious faith. Through sustained efforts the *khap* council was able to secure freedom in religious matters and internal administration in the time of the Mughal emperor, Akbar in 1580.

The emperor Bahadur Shah authorised the *khap* vizir to fix and collect the land revenue from the villages. His help was also sought by emperor Muhammad Shah in 1748 to raise a military force for meeting aggression by Ahmad Shah Abdali and for keeping peace. The leaders of the *khap* took active part in the freedom struggle of 1857 and gave full support to Nana Sahib, a leader of the freedom-fighters. Consequently, a number of them were sentenced to death and the activities of the *khap* fell into disarray. During the British regime the *khap* lost its political effectiveness and diverted its activities towards the social life of the people. After Independence the members of the *khap* have become politically conscious again, particularly about their representation in the assemblies.



Two hundred years old Chaupal (Khap) of Shoron

The village possesses a sheep-breeding centre and two junior Basic schools. The tomb of the Sufi saint Gharib Shah, who came from Baghdad and settled in this village, was built in 1551. A fair near the tomb is held on the fifth day of the month Shawal every year on the occasion of his Urs, the approximate attendance being 20,000. The place is electrified and has several temples and mosques. It has a total area of 143 ha. and a population of 8,586 persons.

Shukartal (pargana Bhukarheri, tahsil Jansath)

The place comprises two villages Shukartal *khadir* and Shukartal *bangar*, i.e. the lowland and the upland area. It lies in Lat. 29°29' N. and Long. 78°11' E. Situated on the western bank of the Ganga, it is located at a distance of 22 km. from the tahsil headquarters. Viewed from above the *khadir* appears as a broad tract of level country, covered by patches of cultivation, bearing elsewhere nothing more than occasional clumps of tarmarisk in coarse green grass. Trees are practically non-existent, with occasional rivulets oozing out here and there beyond which the Ganga presents itself to the eye in a silvery streak.

Traditionally, the place is one of the most important centres of Hindu pilgrimage in the district, believed to be the same spot where the curse-laden king Parikshit (grandson of Arjuna), was given a learned discourse on *Shreemad Bhagvat* by Maharshi Shukdeva, the sage. The banyan tree under which the king received this recitation, is identified with the one standing in the compound of the temple of Sukhdeva, which is situated by the river side. Built on a sandy hillock running parallel with the Ganga, with a line of cliffs broken by ravines and sloping down from the uplands (*bangar*) towards the river itself, the temple is picturesquely situated amidst pleasing prospects.

The ruins of a Pathan fort ascribed to the Rohilla chieftain, Najib-ud-Daula (who figured in the later half of the 18th century), testify to its popularity among the later Muslim rulers as well. A huge gathering, made up of by about one lakh persons, takes place here on the Kartika Purnima, when people flock to this place to have a dip in the Ganga, the fair being organised under the management of the Zila Parishad. The place has a rest-house maintained by the Zila Parishad, in addition to which there are 10 dharmshalas maintained by different organisations, which cater for the needs of the incoming pilgrims on the occasion of the fair. The village receives its power supply from Bhopa, and it has a junior Basic and a senior Basic school. It is included in the Morna development block and has a population of 814 and an area of 535 ha.

Sisauli (pargana Shikarpur, tahsil Budhana)

Sisauli lies in Lat. 29°25' N. and Long. 77°28' E. at a distance of the 5 km. north of Shikarpur, and 14 km. south-west of Muzaffarnagar, on the right bank of the tributary of the river Hindan. The village is connected with the Muzaffarnagar-Shamli road which passes at 6 km on its northern side, and with a feeder

road which meets the former at Lalakheri. Bus service is quite regular here.

It possesses an intermediate college, two junior Basic schools, and a maternity and child welfare centre. It is electrified.

This place was a part of *khap* Baliyan, and became the seat of the clan chaudhuri of *sarv khap* held here in 1527, at which it was decided to help Rana Sangram Singh against Babar, a force of 25,000 being sent for this purpose. In 1760 the members of the *khap* again decided at a meeting held here to help Sadashiv Bhau, a Maratha general, against the invasion of Ahmad Shah Abdali. For this an army of 20,000 soldiers was raised and it fought under the leadership of the Marathas in the third battle of Panipat which took place in 1761 A.D. They also inspired people, by touring the villages of the *khap* to rise in revolt against the British during the freedom struggle of 1857. For participating actively in the freedom movement a number of persons of this village were sentenced to death by the British. The *khap* council received a setback during the British regime from the introduction of a new system of administration. It, however, was revived after the achievement of Independence in 1947. The *Khap* council now works for social uplift and the welfare of the people. They are now becoming politically conscious also and take active interest in elections. It falls in the Shahpur development block and is included in the Titawi police-station. An area of 12 sq. km. of this village has been converted into a town with a population of 9,198.

Sujru (pargana and tahsil Muzaffarnagar)

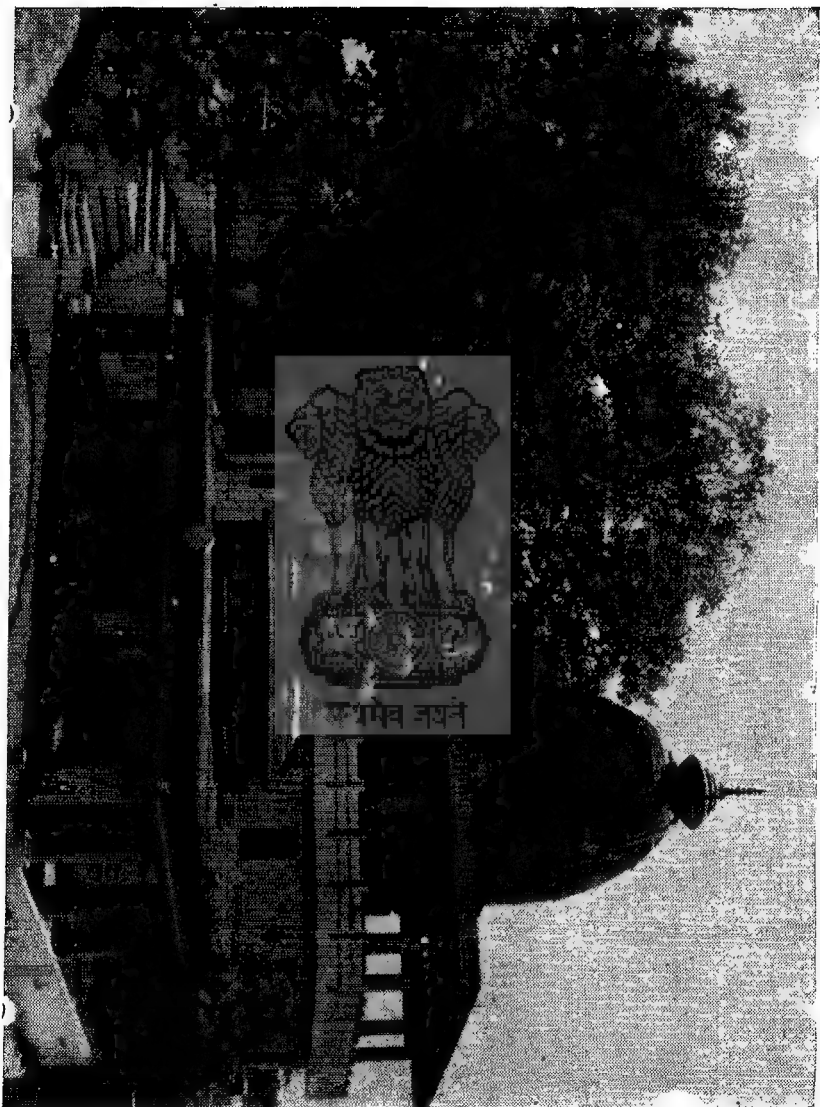
Sujru, a large village, lies in Lat. 29°27' N. and Long. 77°42' E., 3 km. south of Muzaffarnagar on the Muzaffarnagar-Meerut road, and is situated on the high ground above the *khadir* of the river Kali Nadi on its left bank.

The village is a centre of small-scale industries in iron and steel and possesses a junior Basic school. It is included in the Jaranda *nyaya* panchayat and is electrified. It falls in Muzaffarnagar development block and police-station. The population of the place is 7,467 and it covers an area of 743 ha.

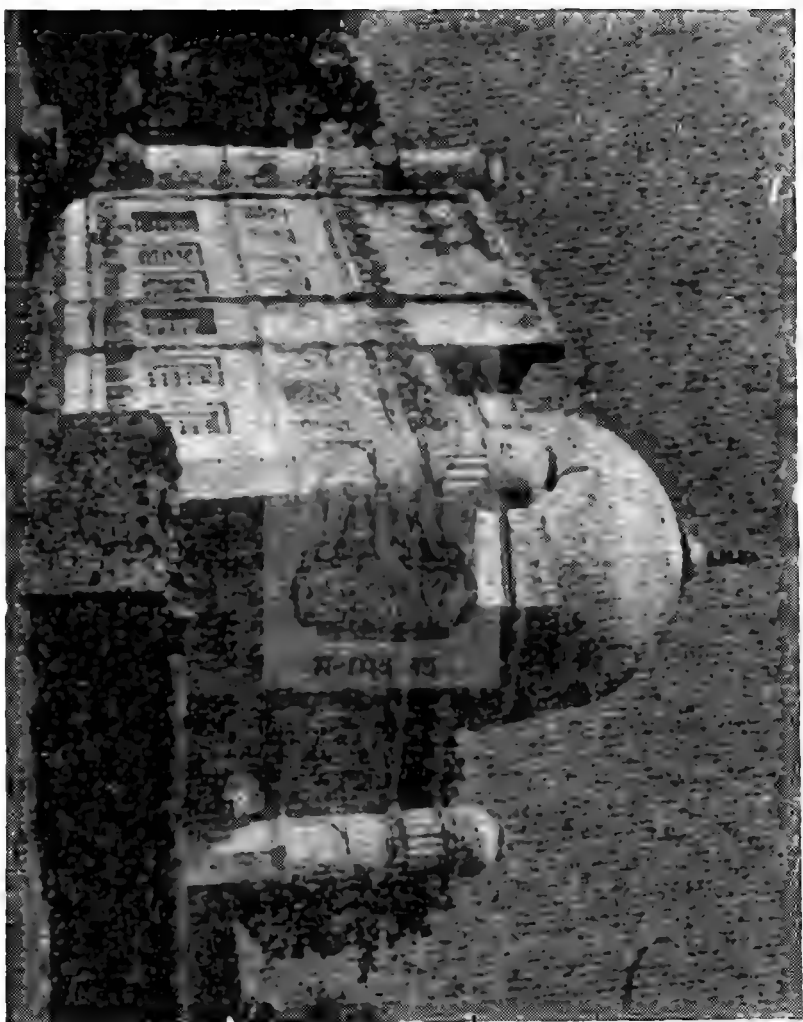
Thana Bhawan (pargana Thana Bhawan, tahsil Kairana)

Thana Bhawan, the headquarters of development block and pargana, lies in Lat. 29°35' N. and Long. 77°25' E. Situated on an elevated site lying between the river Kirsani on the east, and irrigated by the Jalalabad distributary of the Yamuna canal on the west, Thana Bhawan is located 18 km. from Shamli and 32 km. from the district headquarters.

The place is said to have been known as Thana Bhim in the days of Akbar, the present name being derived at a later stage from an old temple dedicated to the goddess Bhawani, which stands to the west of it and attracts a sizable gathering in the month of



Temple of Shuk Deva, Shukartal



Tomb of Gharib Shah, Shoron

Bhadra. The place was the traditional home of a family of Qazis, whose property was largely diminished when the British confiscated it as an aftermath of the 1857 movement. The place was a centre of disaffection during 1857 when the Sheikhzadas, headed by their Qazi, Mahbub Ali Khan, broke into open rebellion, stormed the tahsil of Shamli and captured it on 14th September, 1857, causing pandemonium in the ranks of the British. As a measure of reprisal, a detachment was sent to this place, the walls and eight gates being levelled to the ground in October.

An area of .4 sq. km. of this place with a population of 13,933 is administered as a town area and was electrified in 1929. It has two junior Basic and two senior Basic schools, in addition to a maternity and child welfare centre, a primary health centre and a family planning centre.

A number of buildings tracing their origin to the Muslim period, are to be found here. Most of these have undergone rather severe ravages of time. Among these may be mentioned the mosque of Maulvi Saiyed-ud-Din, said to date back to 1099 Hijri, the tomb of Maulvi Sheikh Muhammad, built in 1109 Hijri, and the mosque of Pir Muhammad ascribed to emperor Aurangzeb who built it in 1114 Hijri.

Tughlaqqur (pargana Pur Chhappar, tahsil Muzaffarnagar)

This large village lies in Lat. 29°36' N. and Long. 77°53' E. at a distance of about 27 km. north-east of Muzaffarnagar. A road leading from Purqazi to Bhukarheri crosses the Ganga canal at a short distance to the west of the village. It is also connected by a road to Gordhanpur.

The name of the place implies that it dates from the mediaeval period and was either founded by or derived its name from, Muhammad Tughluq (1325—1351 A.D.). It also finds mention in the memoirs of Timur as a village on the bank of the Ganga, where he camped during his expedition to the doab. During the reign of Akbar it was the headquarters of a *mahal* of the same name, and in the time of Jahangir it became the country seat of Nurjahan, after whom the pargana came to be known as Nurnagar. In 1816, it was united with Pur Chhappar.

The village has no direct bus connection, the nearest bus-stop being Harinagar at a distance of 11 km. on the Purquazi-Barwala road.

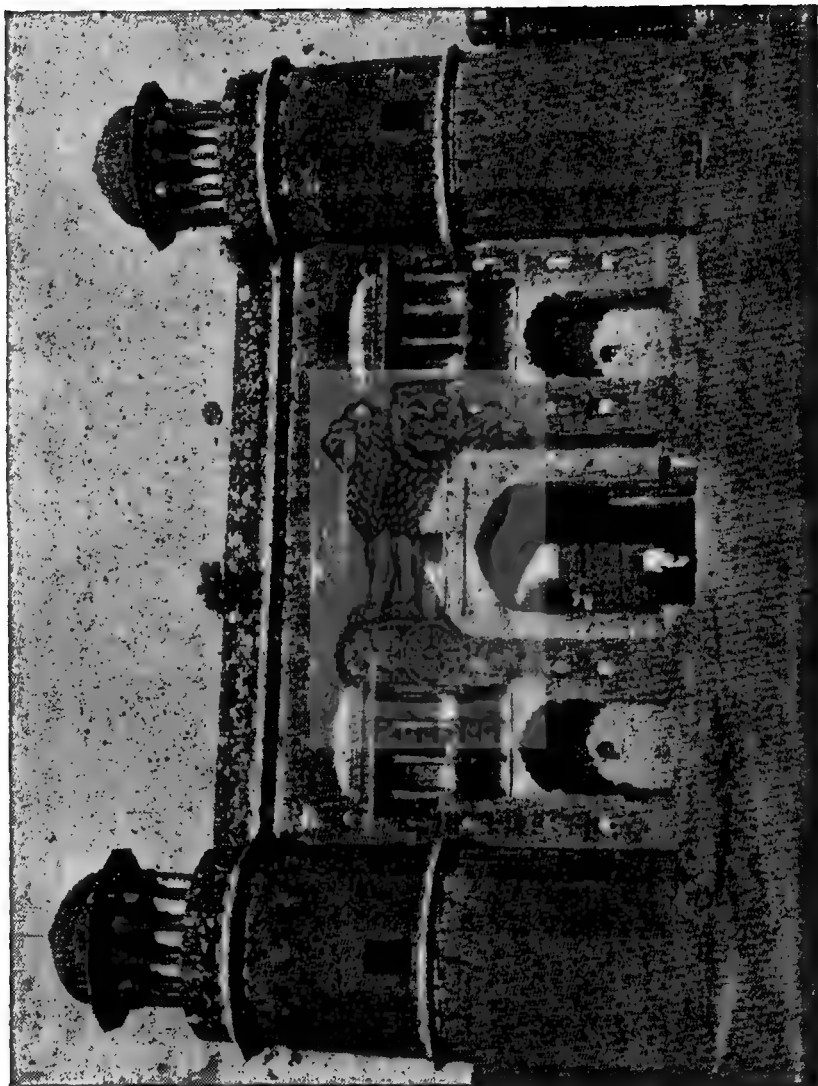
The village is electrified and has a junior and a senior Basic school, a dispensary, and a inspection house of the irrigation department. A market is held here every Wednesday. It is the headquarters of the *nyaya* panchayat and is included in the development block and the police-station of Purqazi. The village covers an area of 798 ha. having a population of 2,550.

Wahlana (pargana and tahsil Muzaffarnagar)

Wahlana lies in Lat. $29^{\circ}28'$ N. and Long. $77^{\circ}43'$ E. at a distance of 5 km. from the district headquarters and is connected by a metalled road with the State highway to Meerut.

This ancient place is known for its group of ancient temples. An idol of Lord Parasnath, believed to be 2500 years old, has also been unearthed here. It was perhaps an important Jain centre as is evident from the fact that a religious fair known as Jain Uchchao is held here every year on the 2nd of October, to attend which Jains from all parts of the country come. The place might have been an old Saiyid habitation at one time as it has ruins of an old fort credited to the Saiyids. The village has a junior Basic school and is electrified. It is the headquarters of the *nyaya* panchayat and is included in Muzaffarnagar development block and police-station. It has a population of 1,769 and is spread over an area of 435 ha.





Old Fort, Wahleena

CONVERSION FACTORS

Money

- 1 pie=0.52 Paise
- 1 pice=1.56 Paise

Linear Measure

- 1 inch=2.54 centimetres
- 1 foot=30.48 centimetres
- 1 yard=91.44 centimetres
- 1 mile=1.61 kilometres

Square Measure

- 1 square foot=0.093 square metres
- 1 square yard=0.836 square metres
- 1 square mile=2.59 square kilometres=259 hectares
- 1 acre=0.405 hectares

Cubic Measure

- 1 cubic foot=0.028 cubic metres

Measure of Capacity

- 1 gallon (imperial)=4.55 litres
- 1 seer* (80 tolas)=0.937 litres

Measure of Weight

- 1 tola=11.66 grams
- 1 chatak=58.32 grams
- 1 seer*=933.10 grams
- 1 maund*=37.32 kilograms
- 1 ounce (Avoirdupois)=28.35 grams
- 1 pound (Avoirdupois)=453.59 grams
- 1 hundredweight=50.80 kilograms
- 1 ton=101.05 kilograms=1.016 metric tonnes

Thermometer Scales

- 1° Fahrenheit=9/5° centigrade+32

*As defined in Indian Standards of Weight Act, 1930



GLOSSARY

<i>Agyatvasa</i>	... Living anonymously in exile
<i>Angan</i>	... Court yard
<i>Arhar</i>	... Pigeon pea
<i>Asami</i>	... A lessee of a disabled <i>bhumidhar</i> or of a <i>sirdar</i>
<i>Ashrama</i>	... Hermitage
<i>Attars</i>	... Perfume-sellers
<i>Bahli</i>	... A kind of vehicle carried by men
<i>Bajra</i>	... Pearl millet
<i>Baradari</i>	... Building open on all sides
<i>Barseem</i>	... Fodder crop
<i>Bharkas</i>	... A kind of vehicle carried by men
<i>Bhayachara</i>	... A village held by a body of co-sharers
<i>Bhumidhar(s)</i>	... Peasant-proprietor having permanent, heritable and transferable rights in his holdings
<i>Bidi</i>	... Indigenous cigarette made of tendu leaves and tobacco
<i>Brahmcharya</i>	... Celibacy
<i>Chana</i>	... Gram
<i>Dai</i>	... Midwife other than those who hold diplomas
<i>Desi</i>	... Indigenous
<i>Dholak</i>	... A small drum
<i>Dhuniyas</i>	... Cotton carder
<i>Fateha</i>	... Muslim prayer
<i>Faujdar</i>	... Subordinate military officer under the Mughals
<i>Gaon sabha</i>	... Village assembly
<i>Garha</i>	... Coarse cloth
<i>Gotra</i>	... Eponymous group descended from a common ancestor in the male line of descent
<i>Guar</i>	... A green manure crop
<i>Gulli-danda</i>	... Indian game played with a small stick and a bale
<i>Gur</i>	... Jaggery
<i>Gurukula</i>	... Residential educational institution at guru's own place
<i>Hajj</i>	... Pilgrimage to Mecca
<i>Hat</i>	... A periodical market
<i>Havan</i>	... Fire sacrifice
<i>Hundi</i>	... A bill of exchange
<i>Jali</i>	... Mesh
<i>Jarhan</i>	... Late paddy

<i>Jarib</i>	... Chain, a land measure equal to 22 yards or 22.116 metres
<i>Kabaddi</i>	... Indian game
<i>Kachauri</i>	... Stuffed deep fried bread
<i>Katha</i>	... Mythological story
<i>Kamdar</i>	... Labourer
<i>Kankar</i>	... Irregular concretions of impure calcareous matter used for making lime
<i>Kanyadan</i>	... Giving away of girl in marriage
<i>Khadar</i>	... Low land near river
<i>Khandsari</i>	... Indigenous white sugar
<i>Kholkhol</i>	... A green leafy vegetable
<i>Kirana</i>	... General merchandise
<i>Kodon</i>	... A coarse grain (<i>Fasalum kora</i>)
<i>Kotwal</i>	... Incharge of police circle
<i>Kurta</i>	... Long and loose shirt
<i>Lobia</i>	... A kind of bean
<i>Madarsa</i>	... Primary school of Muslims
<i>Mahal</i>	... Unit of land (comprising several villages) under separate engagement for payment of revenue
<i>Mahant</i>	... Temple priest, head of a Hindu monastery
<i>Mal-kar</i>	... A tax on goods
<i>Mandi</i>	... Market
<i>Mandua</i>	... A kind of small millet
<i>Matha</i>	... Butter milk
<i>Maqtab</i>	... Primary school imparting Muslim education
<i>Masoor</i>	... A kind of pulse
<i>Mehr</i>	... Dower money
<i>Mohalla</i>	... Residential locality
<i>Moong</i>	... Green gram
<i>Moonj</i>	... A kind of long reed of which ropes etc. are made
<i>Moulvi</i>	... A learned Muslim (usually a teacher)
<i>Mundan</i>	... First head-shaving ceremony
<i>Musafirkhana</i>	... Inn
<i>Namkaran</i>	... Christening
<i>Nazul</i>	... The land belonging to government situated within municipal area, but not belonging to any particular department
<i>Neera</i>	... A light liquid intoxicant
<i>Nyaya</i>	... Justice
<i>Paith</i>	... Weekly market
<i>Pathshala</i>	... School
<i>Panch</i>	... Member of <i>gaon</i> panchayat
<i>Patti</i>	... Group of villages in hill—a revenue circle
<i>Payal</i>	... Anklet
<i>Pradhan</i>	... Head of <i>gaon</i> panchayat
<i>Pramukh</i>	... Chairman
<i>Puri</i>	... Deep fried bread
<i>Qanungo</i>	... Petty revenue officer

<i>Qazi</i>	... Judge, who also solemnises Muslim marriages
<i>Rab</i>	... Liquid Jaggery
<i>Reh</i>	... Saline efflorescence
<i>Sahjan</i>	... Drum stick
<i>Sahukar</i>	... Money-lender
<i>Sarkar</i>	... A subdivision of the subah ; a district in pre-British days
<i>Sandhya</i>	... Prayer
<i>Sawai</i>	... Getting back one and a quarter times the quantity lent
<i>Sawan</i>	... A coarse grain (<i>Panicum frumentaceum</i>)
<i>Sewain</i>	... Vermicelli
<i>Shakkar</i>	... Sugar
<i>Shisham</i>	... Sissoo
<i>Singhara</i>	... Water chestnut
<i>Singri</i>	... A green vegetable
<i>Sir</i>	... Land cultivated by the owner
<i>Sirdar</i>	... A land-holder having heritable but not transferable rights in the land-holdings
<i>Subah</i>	... Province in pre-British days
<i>Sarpanch</i>	... Head member of <i>nyaya</i> panchayats
<i>Takht</i>	... Armless wooden couch
<i>Tari</i>	... Liquor made of palm
<i>Taroi</i>	... A green vegetable
<i>Taqavi</i>	... Loans given by government to cultivators for agricultural purposes with or without interest
<i>Tazia</i>	... An imitation of the tomb of Hasan and Husain, generally made of coloured paper and bamboo
<i>Tun</i>	... <i>Cadrellattona</i>
<i>Up-pramukh</i>	... Vice-Chairman
<i>Urd</i>	... Black gram
<i>Urs</i>	... Commemoration of death anniversary of Muslim saint at his tomb
<i>Usar</i>	... Unproductive soil mixed with gravel
<i>Vaid</i>	... Practitioner of Ayurvedic system of medicine
<i>Yatri kar</i>	... Pilgrim tax



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